

# MY

BETTER HOMES & GARDENS'

# HOME GUIDE



DECORATING, FURNISHING, AND CARE OF YOUR HOME  
WITH COLOR CHART, DIAGRAMS, AND PRACTICAL HELPS



My Better Homes & Gardens  
HOME GUIDE

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# Your Home

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GOOD ideas are always needed and wanted in planning for the home. A single idea may be of almost inestimable value in the resulting satisfaction whether it be guidance in the purchase of new furniture or advice on the grouping of that furniture.

My *Better Homes & Gardens* Home Guide is a book of ideas and suggestions and plans. I hope it will be of great help to you and that you will keep it close at hand for reference.

Your home is *yours*, however, and while editors and home-furnishings experts can help you, furnishings should be changed, rearranged, or renewed when and in the manner that is pleasing to you and your family.

Taking part in the selection of furnishings and planning for the home adds greatly to the interest and pride each member of the family has in that home. Besides the genuine satisfaction that comes from living amid surroundings that one has had a part in making, there is the pleasure of family discussion and decision.

To make the home genuinely attractive to the children, to encourage them to use the home more and spend more time there, they should be given a part in selecting the things that make the home more livable. It will bring to them the joy of achievement—the real satisfaction that comes from creative efforts. Only in this way can a home be one in every sense of the word.

There is satisfaction, too, in the knowledge that correct furnishing of the home is simply a matter of good taste rather than the amount of money spent. If the few simple rules of good taste are followed, the entire family will take greater pride in it. Then it is up to each member to give the finishing touches that will make your house what it should be—a HOME.

*Christine Holbrook.*  
Home-Furnishings Director



*THE hearth, the open fireplace, is the symbol of the home and family life.*

# Walls

- *Texture, Detail, and Color of Walls Should Harmonize with Furnishings*

**I**N PLANNING the walls of the rooms thruout your home, consider them first of all as a background for your furnishings or for the furnishings you plan to have.

With this in view, color, tone, and even texture should be carefully considered and the relation of walls to adjoining rooms be established. As a general rule, texture for walls is something to consider with the type of home one builds. An architect can advise what type of a home calls for paneled, papered, or plastered walls, and whether they should be rough or smooth.

*Wall Finishes.* Painted walls will fit in almost any type of home, and papered walls are almost as elastic. In many of our homes, not purely period, painted or papered walls are equally good.

Rough plaster or large-patterned paper tends to diminish the size of a room, bringing the walls closer, but one exception is when the walls are scenic or landscaped. A perspective in the pattern adds size to the room by carrying the eye into the distance.

*Plaster.* Gray-white plaster walls are likely to give a cold impression unless they are warmed by rich hangings or colorful paintings; therefore, it is advisable in most cases to use a soft color on plaster walls. If walls are stippled or treated in various other two-toned finishes, in which smears of two colors are applied, they must be carefully and artistically done, so that you are not made conscious of an effort to attain unevenness with mechanical regularity.

*Avoid Extremes.* Extremes in plaster effects are seldom good. Color may be added to plaster before it is applied to a wall, but it is wise to apply it later by painting or calcimining. The latter is most frequently used as a temporary finish in new houses during the period of settling which sometimes cracks the plaster. When walls are painted, a dull surface without gloss is to be preferred, except where one wishes lighter tints and always in plain colors.

*Wall Patterns.* In choosing





- Here we show a room with the  
woodwork painted to harmonize  
with the rest of the wall surface

the degree of roughness for your plaster wall finish, beware of the too-rough surface, which is very difficult to live with owing to its scratchiness. Pargeting, the use of small patterns in relief arranged unconventionally at intervals in a plaster wall, is being used, and stenciling on plaster with color is seen occasionally as a border pattern about doors and windows.

*Paneling.* Paneling of rooms or even partial paneling is much in favor today. The vogue has been rapidly growing since the re-

vived interest in Early American rooms has swept over the country. Wood paneling and the moldings used for doors, windows, and so on, should be designed with restraint and with a feeling of unity for the room.

Paneled walls are the most dignified of all wall finishes. Nice wood paneling may be left in its natural state or it may be finished with a stain that leaves the natural beauty of the grain and figure in the wood as part of the surface decoration. Wood offers a surface easily cleaned and maintained. Woodwork treated in this manner may be finished with or without a



polish. Paneling may be painted, as it often is in old houses.

A beautiful combination is effected by paneling the fireplace side of the wall and papering the other three walls of the room. In modern homes we often see plaster or some of the numerous wallboard materials divided into paneled spaces.

*Woodwork.* The question of interior woodwork should be settled with the architect. Lovely soft mellow stained woodwork is always good, and can be used to great advantage with plaster walls and there are always paper designs that lend themselves to

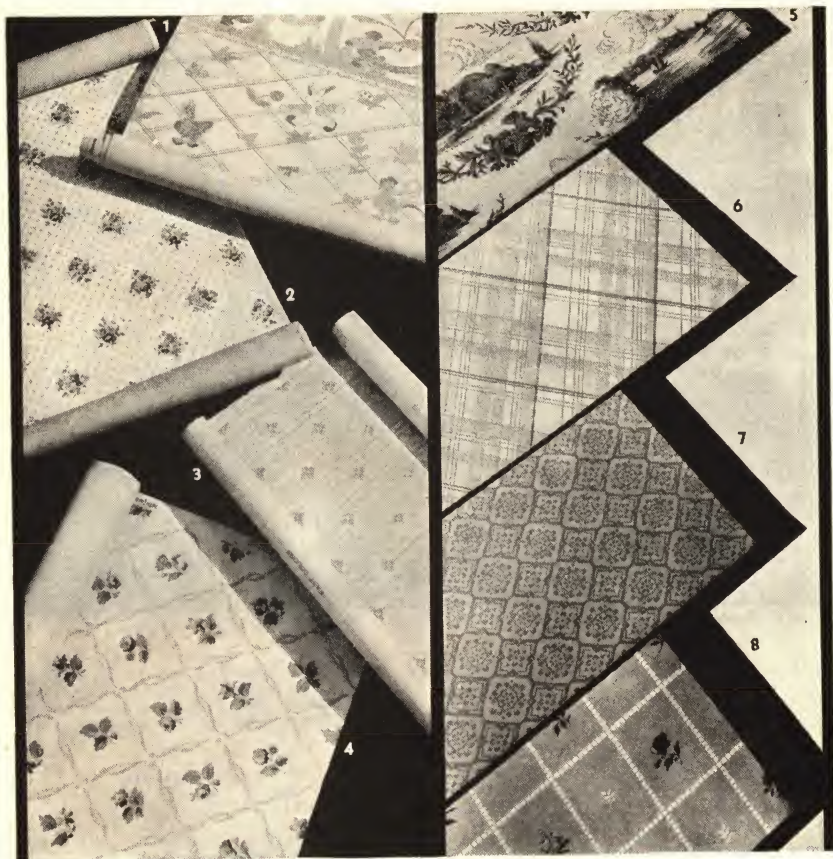
- Wood paneling left in its natural state, as shown in the photo here, blends well with most furnishings. The ceiling here is painted cream

the harmonious blending of natural wood trims.

In papered rooms of today we generally find the woodwork painted with the idea of toning it in with the rest of the wall surface, the idea being to have it subside into the background instead of outlining the room. Except in bathrooms and kitchens, a dull gloss finish is desirable for trims as well as wall surfaces.

One may, of course, be venturesome and get some splendid effects by painting the trim in con-





## New Wall Coverings

1. A practical, washable fabric for the nursery walls, with border.
2. A particularly fresh washable fabric with a charming formal pattern.
3. A semi-formal patterned paper with a fine stripe in the background.
4. Gay and new, yet not distracting in color, is this newly patterned paper.
5. In shades of tan and warm browns or even in copper color, this washable fabric is a perfect back-ground for Early American furniture.
6. A smart plaid of which every home



## for Every Room in Your Home

- needs at least one.
7. Quaint and safe in design is this pattern for the simply furnished home.
  8. The new white idea in decorating is found in this checkerboard paper.
  - 9-12. A collection of popular borders to suit the various rooms.
  13. A conservative Georgian wall fabric in soft tones of tan.
  14. Smart, up-to-date patriotic design in black and silver on a white ground.
  15. A Colonial pattern in pastel shades.
  16. White gulls form a design on light tones for bathroom walls.
  17. Formal-patterned paper suitable for any room on the lower floor or for an upstairs sitting-room.
  18. The new, smart idea of the horizontal lines in guaranteed washable paper.
  19. If you do not have a star-papered bedroom, you should have at least a polka-dotted one.
  20. The modern trend in washable nursery paper.



trasting colors to the wall, but it takes a knowledge of color to plan strong contrasts as a background. Wood trims in the rooms can be of less expensive wood if they are to be painted instead of stained.

*Wallpaper.* In choosing wallpaper the whole secret of success will lie in selecting the proper color and pattern for your room. Our furniture, tho often mixed in periods, usually shows a dominating tendency, so this combined with the period of your house should help in the selection of papers.

Not that we must necessarily use paper and furniture of the same period, for you will be surprised how well a modern paper may be used with old furniture. In such a case its design, even tho modern, must show a classic tendency. If one is fond of pictures or decorative walls then one should use simple background papers of plain color or unobtrusive design. Should one not care for pictures then a patterned paper may well be featured.

*Color and Design Effect.* Selecting wallpapers, bear the following points in mind. Warm colors add light and cheer to dark rooms—yellow, tan, cream, and similar colors. Warm colors in the darker tones will bring the walls

closer to you and make large rooms seem more cozy. Cool colors tone down rooms which are too bright. Blue, green, lavender, are cool colors.

Large designs adapt themselves best to large wall spaces and small designs are usually best in small rooms. Too minute designs should be avoided as at a distance they give an insignificant effect. Landscape or scenic papers with perspective add space to small rooms, such as halls and vestibules. Stripes add height to low-ceilinged rooms, especially when the paper is carried up to the ceiling line.

*All-over Patterns.* They add height to attic rooms that have broken wall lines by carrying the paper over the ceiling. Too high rooms may be lowered by using a paper of strong design up to 18 inches from the ceiling and bringing the ceiling paper down to meet it. A similar effect can be had by papering above a wood wainscoting.

Plain paper or paint will bring out architectural effects. Figured paper camouflages bad lines in a room. When using a plate rail and two kinds of paper in a room, the lower paper should always be stronger in both design and color. Avoid using a finishing band or border at the ceiling line.

- Linoleum was used in the kitchen pictured here to cover both the walls and floor



*Washable Papers.* Washable papers are today on the market offering every possible kind of design. There are glossy surfaces and some washable, dull finishes that are beautiful enough to be used in any living-room. One may varnish an ordinary wall-paper so that finger marks may be removed with a damp cloth. Should you wish to have a wall-paper removed that has been varnished, a caustic is applied to

break the glaze, then the paper may be removed like any other paper.

*Tile Trim.* Decorative tile is sometimes used today in wall treatments to trim doors and windows and even in forming panels and niches in sunrooms or halls. Tiles are very nice on window sills where plants will stand, and of course, there is nothing to take the place of tile for bath-rooms and kitchens.



In renovating old rooms there are many plaster substitutes that can be used and also various types of wallboards, all of which give satisfactory results. A builder will be able to give you full information about the use of these materials. Canvas, too, may be employed in renovation work.

*Ceilings.* A new note is that they shall not be too contrasting with the rest of the room. In fact, in many small, low-ceilinged attic rooms that are papered with a small-patterned paper the wall-paper is today carried up all over the ceiling, making it one with the entire room. If you have a distinctly period room, then the ceiling becomes an architectural element of the room.

*Before applying paint,* paper, or other finish to old walls, all holes or cracks must be filled.

*An approved patching plaster* is advisable. Wide cracks should be carefully enlarged and cleaned to the lath. Dampen with water and fill. After the patching plaster has hardened, carefully smooth with sandpaper.

*New plaster* is best allowed to "set" for six months before painting. On jobs where this is impossible, painters frequently apply a solution of two pounds of zinc sulphate in one gallon of water. The plaster is then allowed ample

time to dry thoroly before the priming coat is applied.

Those *fine hair-like cracks* that are due to the plaster drying out may require a size to seal the pores of the plaster before painting. A varnish size applied to the new wall, or a glue size applied after the priming coat may be used. But it is safest to purchase a size manufactured by a concern known to be reliable, and to use this size strictly according to directions on the container.

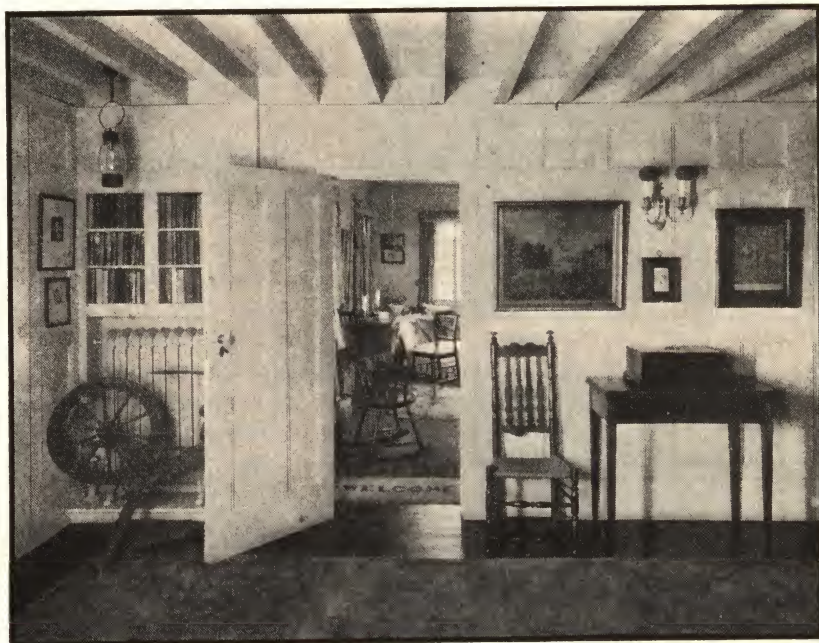
When *washing walls*, first wash upward with clear water, then wash down with water and pure neutral soap. Follow with a thoroly rinsing.

*Woodwork may be cleaned* in the same manner. A very little ammonia in the water helps when cleaning painted surfaces, but should not be used on varnished woodwork.

*Papered walls* to be cleaned may be cared for best with the reliable proprietary wallpaper cleaners on the market. Manufacturers' directions should be followed closely.

*Before papering* or painting, walls which have been calcimined, walls should be washed with water and every part of the wall should be well scraped.

*Grease spots* may be removed from wallpaper with a piece of



blotting paper held against the spots with a hot iron. The iron should not be hot enough to affect the color of the wallpaper. Stubborn grease spots may have to be covered with a paste of Fuller's Earth or pipe clay mixed with water. This is carefully plastered over the spots, allowed to dry, then the plaster will usually absorb the grease and may be removed when quite dry.

*Old wallpaper* may be removed by thoroly and repeatedly soaking with water, followed by scraping with a putty knife or a blade designed particularly for the pur-

- Nothing appears so attractive in a room of this architectural type as simple white paneling. The early American furniture is very appropriate used with the white paneling

pose. The surface should afterward be sandpapered until perfectly smooth.

New color notes for walls are soft salmon pinks for bedrooms with white papers or white paint for the living-room and dining-room. Borders for walls are being used. The paper border of flowered festons or broad ribbon drapes is particularly popular. These paper borders are used on painted as well as papered walls.



# Floors

## • *Their Refinishing, Covering, and Care*

**W**OOD floors are the most popular. The tendency today in staining floors is to keep them dark in tone. Walnut stain is most often used. In staining floors dark, you follow one of the first principles in decoration, which is to work from dark to light (floor to ceiling) in creating a room.

*Finishes.* The finish of a floor should be of a soft dull gloss, giving preferably the effect of absolute strength instead of throwing off reflections. Try to give a feeling of weight to the floors. You will find that dark staining will do this and a floor that is finished dull, or with a soft gloss, will not show blemishes or marks as readily as a highly polished floor.

Only when the woodwork is light should the floor be left light in tone, but let us suppose we have a golden oak finish on our woodwork. Then the floor may be of like color, but a degree darker than the woodwork. Natural-finished woodwork calls for natural-finished floors in a deeper tone to obtain the best effects.

*The Right Tone.* When it comes to staining and finishing the floor, time must be given to getting the right tone. If the stain is not deep enough, burnt umber can be added as a base color to the floor filler. Then if the color is not quite right one might experiment with a little Van Dyke brown or lamp black. When finishing new floors in a home keep a piece of the floor at hand on which to experiment for color in mixing stains.

If one is just refinishing an old floor, choose an inconspicuous spot on which to test the color. You may not expect a particular stain to give the same results on different types of wood.

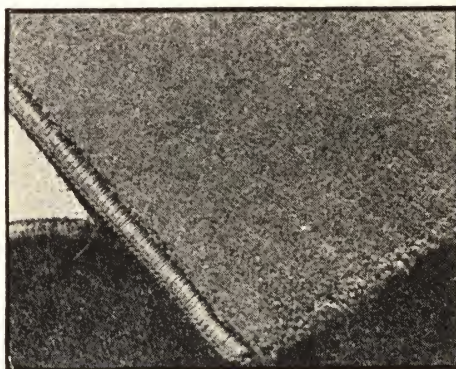
*Waxing.* After the stain is selected for the floor, then the floor should be waxed or varnished. A richer, mellower effect will be obtained from the waxing process, but where a floor must be washed, or in a room in which water is used with frequency, then the finish should be a coat or more of waterproof varnish. Wax-fin-

*(Continued on page 21)*

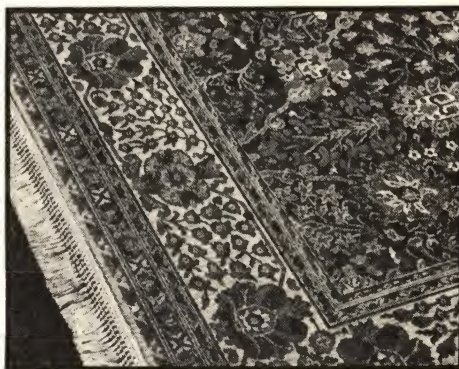
- A Cape Cod hookloom carpeting suitable for living-room, dining-room, den, bedrooms, and, in its 27-inch width, practicable for small rugs and for hall- and stair-coverings and for places that receive much wear. It is easily cleaned



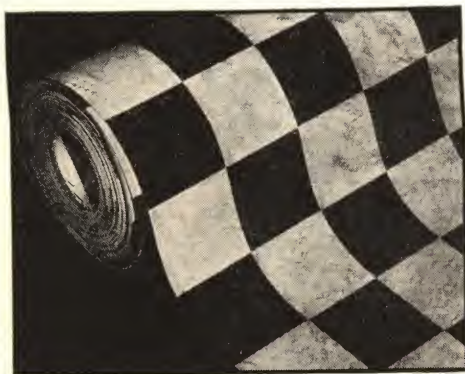
- A broadloom that can be had in many colors and widths, from 27 inches up to 15 feet, and appropriate for living-room, dining-room, den, bedrooms. It is particularly adaptable for all-over carpeting in the smaller rooms



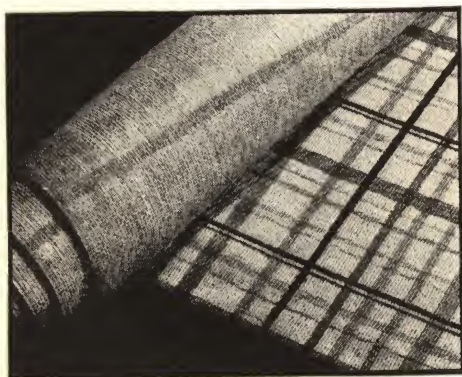
- An Anglo-Persian broadloom rug, often incorrectly called American Oriental, which has a soft, warm, rich coloring and is always splendid for living-room, dining-room, den, and for a man's room. It stands hard wear



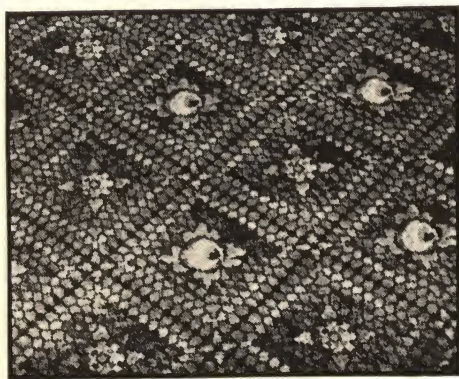




- An inlaid linoleum in smart black and cream check that is fine for hall, sunroom, dining-room, bathrooms, attic room, kitchen, and recreation room and in every room where it is advisable to have the floors water-proof



- A smart-looking closely woven carpet resembling the old brussels weave; appropriate for sunroom, bedroom, attic room, recreation room. It is particularly adaptable for use in the informal cottage



- A moderately priced Beauvias axminster that has dignity and can be used for the living-room, dining-room, den, bedroom, hall, and stairs. It can be obtained in colors to harmonize with all your other furnishings



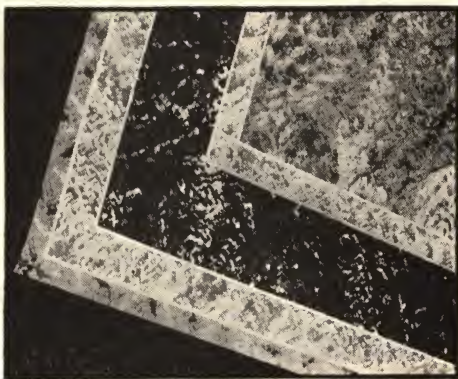
- Rubber tiles in many shades are recommended for basement recreation-room floors, and they are also suitable in bathrooms, sunrooms, and halls. They can stand much wear and are easily cleaned



- A frieze Wilton brocade splendid for living-room, dining-room, den, hall, and stairs. Selected in the right pattern and colors to harmonize with your other furnishings, it is an attractive and practical floor covering



- A felt base rug in simple marbled finish could find its place in the kitchen, breakfast room, nursery, dining-room, and recreation room. It will stand unusually hard wear and can be quickly cleaned without difficulty

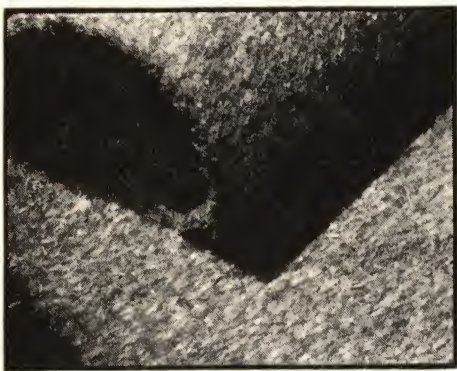




- Linoleum with irregular tile pattern appropriate in a sun-room, hall, kitchen, bathroom, attic room, or recreation room. It is obtainable in colorful patterns that will add to the attractiveness and usefulness of any room



- An attractive, simply designed rug made from your own old materials shipped into the factory and returned to you in any color or choice of design you wish to order, depending on the room in which you wish to place it

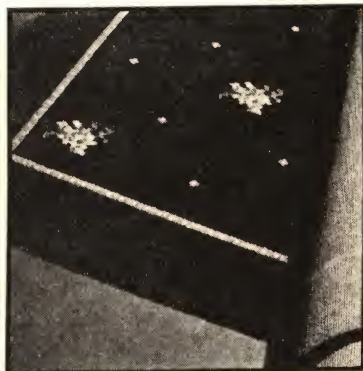


- A linen rug that can be had in plain or heather colors or in home-spun effects. It is appropriate for sunroom, bedrooms, attic room, recreation room, or any cottage room where simplicity is the outstanding feature desired





- An improved mothproof hair padding in any size for carpet or rug is essential to the long life of every rug in the home



- A pretty Colonial-figured axminster rug fine for simple living-room, dining-room; especially suitable for bedrooms

(Continued from page 16)

ished floors should never have water used in cleaning them.

*Worn Floors.* Neglected hardwood floors have to be entirely done over. They cannot be just touched up. It is essential from an economical point of view to keep floors in good condition. If they need refinishing you must start from the beginning and scrape and sandpaper. Electric machines can be hired today that are of great assistance when it comes to floor finishing.

*Softwood Floors.* Softwood floors may be finished by either waxing or varnishing in exactly the same manner as hardwood floors are handled. Of course they do not begin to have the same life as hardwood floors. More often

softwood floors are filled and painted. It is wise to remember that there are specially prepared paints for floors. Three coats should be given and then a coat of clear varnish. The most popular colors for painted floors are dark blue, gray, green, or even black.

Worn softwood floors may be entirely covered with linoleum or carpeting.

*Quality Essential.* Good wood flooring and finishing is very essential from the viewpoint of making housework easier and lengthening the life of a floor. It is possible to use a less expensive flooring when a darker stain is applied.

Do not use too thin a wood flooring. If the floors are wrong in tone, refinish them, for they so

often spoil a whole color scheme. Remember that floors serve as part of the background and so as a general rule it is not wise to invite attention to them.

*Linoleum.* Linoleum has rapidly come to the fore among floor-coverings. Manufacturers give us such quality and such designs that there is not a room in the house that it could not be used in, should one prefer it to other coverings. So well have the manufacturers worked along the period lines that there is a pattern to be found today that harmonizes with every color scheme and fits in with each furniture period.

Linoleums are available with finishes that offer a surface that is very easily kept, and they may be given a soft luminous polish with wax. Water should be used as little as possible on linoleum floors.

*Designs.* Delightful designs may be inlaid in linoleum-covered floors—and a smart note in the laying of linoleum is to employ the border around the edge of the room, and the different colors that repeat themselves in the center of the linoleum can be attractively used in stripes thru the border.

High-grade linoleum is worth laying correctly, so when it is possible, cement it to a lining of

builder's felt which has been pasted to the floor. When heavy pieces of furniture rest on linoleum or carpets, they should have cups under the legs to protect the floor-covering.

*Printed Linoleum.* Printed linoleum and similar material which is found so often in made-up rugs, has not, of course, the lasting value of the inset linoleum and should always be given a coat of transparent varnish which will serve to protect the colors in it against soap and water.

*Cork and Rubber Tiles.* Cork and rubber tiles are used a great deal. The cork tile is unresisting and soft to the foot. It has splendid wearing quality and comes in the various natural colorings of cork. Rubber and linoleum tiles give splendid wear. Rubber tile comes in the smartest of marbleized effects and with its close-grain surface and shining effect makes excellent floors for bathrooms, halls, entry ways, and sunrooms. Tiles, like inlaid linoleum, must be set with cement.

*Other Composition Floorings.* Tile, slate, flagstone, brick, cement, and other composition floorings are being used today in halls, sunrooms, and terraces. Cement is now having the color mixed in it, but there are cement paints which can be easily applied



to the finished floor and which allow of a change in floor coloring as often as you change your color scheme.

There are tiles that have a slight unevenness that takes away the sense of hardness as one walks on them. In buying floor tile, get one with a soft surface that won't scratch. One should avoid laying good rugs on top of tile. If a rug must rest on tiling, protect it with a pad.

*Rugs and Carpetings.* The most important points to be settled in the selection of rugs or carpetings as floor-coverings are their appropriate nature and wearing qualities. Quality is well

worth paying for in a rug or floor-covering, yet if we must watch expense, then careful investigation of wearing value can be successfully studied and it is possible to combine with this style and color.

*Selection.* A close and careful study of the rooms should be given as to the type of covering needed. If the rooms are small, carpeting them all over will help to give a feeling of more space. Large spacious rooms are helped by patterned rugs which even help in the furnishing of the room. Such a rug, tho not touching the wall, should run very close to it.

*One-Color Carpet.* With color-



- This room illustrates how an all-over carpeting will give a feeling of more space. Small rooms covered in this manner with carpeting of neutral shades always appear larger

ful curtains and patterned upholstery you should use a one-color carpet; it will make a better setting for furnishings.

However, many of the modern classic geometrical designs in wallpaper allow figured carpets. If one has little children in the house a patterned rug will prove of service, for it will not show spots or the marks of little feet as readily.

*Buying Rugs.* If a well-known make of carpeting is cheaper in one shop than another, remember that there are several different qualities of nearly every carpeting, so that you may be looking at one grade in one shop and another grade in the next. In buying rugs the closer the weave of a carpet the more durable it will be.

The materials used in carpet making are termed worsted, woolen, linen, hemp, jute, and cotton. The top surface yarn is usually worsted or woolen and the backing is of the linen or hemp. Worsted yarn is the most durable owing to its being a longer fiber, and it is more lustrous in finish.

*Types of Rugs.* To simplify matters, rugs can be divided into two classes, those of flat weave and those with a pile. The latter may be cut or uncut pile. In the cut pile, which is the most luxurious, come such carpets as Wil-

tons, Axminsters, Chenilles, and Tapestries and Velvets; while under the uncut heading are found the two types of Brussels carpeting, and what is known as ingrain, rag, linen, and grass or fiber rugs.

*Feature Good Rugs.* When one is in possession of good Oriental rugs they are well worth featuring and the walls of the room where they are used should be plain or subtly patterned. A good Oriental rug or two may be used to advantage over a plain carpeting.

Oriental rugs show to great advantage on a floor that is finished with a walnut stain. The buying of Oriental rugs is something to be done very carefully, and the buyer should really make a study of this subject.

The domestic Oriental rugs have reached a very high-class stage of production. The manufacturers are reproducing some of the finest museum designs, taken from the old Oriental rugs in their modern patterns. The colors, as well as being blended, are sunfast.

*A New Carpet.* A new type of carpet that offers several interesting points has appeared on the market. It is a woven pile carpet with a processed backing of permanent resiliency, coming in 54-inch widths. With its unusual patented feature of joining with-



- The beauty of a polished floor is enhanced by the use of attractive small rugs, placed properly



out the evidence of a seam, it permits construction of an apparently seamless carpet of any size, giving a broadloom effect.

There is no sewing as the carpet can be cut, joined, fitted, and laid directly on the floor of the room. This eliminates all welt seams, for the strips of carpet are joined with a new patented process making a practically invisible joining.

*Nonskid Feature.* The back of the carpet is treated to make it absolutely nonskid. Furthermore, the back is water-proof, which means that the carpet can be scrubbed and cleaned on the floor. Should stains or burns damage a part of the rug, this part can be cut out and a new piece set in without showing.

*Summer Rugs.* For summer,



on porches, sunrooms, and even for use in other rooms of the house, there are many different types of fiber and grass rugs. Patterns are either woven into them or stenciled on the surface. Rush and grass rugs come in the neutral tints of dried grass. A rush rug is helped by being sprinkled twice a year, for this keeps it pliable and preserves it.

*Scatter Rugs.* There are in the market many types of scatter rugs which are having a great popularity these days. One may place hook, braided, linen, grass, fiber, crochet, and many other smaller rugs in this class. These rugs as well as the large rugs used in a room should be placed so that they follow the structural lines of the room.

*Laying Carpets.* The average carpet to give full value and to add to its life should have care shown in the laying of it. The floor must be level and without uneven boards. A good mothproof lining should be used. In laying an all-over carpet the work should be done by a professional layer, for great care must be taken not to strain or stretch the fabric of the carpet. All small rugs should be lined or anchored so as to avoid sliding and slipping when they are stepped upon.

If, *after rewaxing* your floors,

they seem to lack that bright luster you desire, plan on removing the old wax before you again re-wax the floors.

*Wax* is a protective surface for the floor. Protect those portions of the floor receiving the most wear by frequent rewaxing and it may be unnecessary to refinish a floor even after many years of use.

The time to *remove spots* from carpets and rugs is when the spots first get on the fabric. Grease spots on rugs or carpets should be attacked immediately. If you have nothing but a bit of soap and a hand brush to work with, this will do more good if put into use immediately than more efficient grease removers may after a delay.

*Carpets, rugs, linoleum,* and such floor coverings will last many times as long on a sound smooth floor for a foundation than on a rough broken floor. The best of linoleums may last only a few months on a very rough poor floor for a foundation, while it will last for an indefinite number of years on a proper foundation.

*Sand and grit* working down into the fabric of carpets and rugs shortens the life of these floor coverings so materially that suitable cleaning equipment in the form of vacuum cleaners, etc. will pay for themselves in the actual saving in furnishings.

# Color and Color Schemes

• *Upon the Proper Use of Colors Depends the Charm of Your Home*

WHEN using color for the purpose of home decorating there are certain general truths and principles of common application that it will be found advisable to heed consistently under ordinary circumstances, altho occasions arise now and then when some special reason warrants our setting them aside.

*Use of Color.* One of the simplest as well as most useful principles to observe is to avoid putting a predominant quantity of either a cool color or a dull color in a room with a cold or northern exposure, where the light is cold, less intense, and, oftentimes, less in quantity than in a room with a warm exposure and a warm, glowing light.

The converse of this principle also deserves equal heed—to avoid using a predominant quantity of a warm or advancing color in a room with a warm exposure.

With too much warm color in a room with a warm or southern exposure and an abundance of strong light, the effect is likely to be too intense and oppressive.

*Warm Colors.* The warm col-

ors have a tendency to diminish the apparent size of a room in which they predominate. This is more particularly true of red, or of colors in whose composition the red element predominates, than it is of yellow, or of colors in whose composition yellow predominates.

It is also more especially true of the deeper tones of red and yellow, or of the deeper red and yellow derivatives, than it is of the lighter tones. It is one of the attributes of red that it particularly creates a sense of fullness, richness, and warmth.

*Light Colors.* Yellow, on the other hand, while not deficient in warmth or richness, seems to diffuse and increase light. This strong radiant quality is more noticeable in the lighter tones, so that a small room can often stand a really light yellow without any appreciable loss of apparent size, because the radiant quality counterbalances the contrasting effect.

Cool colors and the lighter tones of colors that are not too insistently warm in their composition tend to increase the apparent size of a room in which they pre-

dominate in quantity.

*Use of Black and White.* Altho white and black are not to be accounted as truly colors, they nevertheless have great significance in our dealing with color. White in juxtaposition with color heightens its effect and intensifies its brilliance by raising its key.

Black, on the other hand, modifies the effect of color and reduces brilliance by lowering the key. White and black, indeed, fill a function as universal harmonizers.

So far as pigments are concerned, the addition of white to a normal or standard color produces the various tints or lighter tones without changing the identity of the color.

*Black.* In the same way, black produces the shades or deeper tones. In fabrics, of course, this end is previously effected in the dyes.

In decoration, the presence of white woodwork, white curtains, other white objects, or white in the decorative patterns or devices, has virtually the same effect as an equal unbroken amount of white by raising the key of the colors.

Black units in decoration have the opposite effect. Incidentally, it is worth pointing out that a pure white wall is really white only in the highlights; elsewhere,

thru the many different reflections it picks up, it displays a variety of colors.

*Predominating Color.* In the composition of a color scheme for a room it is necessary to have some one prevailing or predominating color if the composition is to have any coherence or continuity.

If there is no prevailing color the composition will lack balance and be like a person of two minds, like a weathervane in a variable wind, or like a ship without a rudder.

As a composition it will get nowhere and will convey only an impression of unconvincing vagueness. In other words, there must be a color base or foundation on which to build, a body to incorporate the articulate features.

*Background for Color.* This background for the color composition is a matter of the first importance. Many people seem to think that a background or foundation color from which to build up the composition must necessarily be neutral.

*Neutral Colors.* As noted in the foregoing, where the nature of neutral colors is defined, neutrality must not be confounded with a good foiling or background quality. And yet there is a great deal of confusion on this point, thanks to



a too-common looseness in the use of terms.

You constantly hear people speaking of neutral colors when they really mean quiet background colors, that is to say, colors that have a suitable background or foiling quality against which other colors and movable decorations employed in the scheme will appear to advantage.

*Non-Neutral Colors.* A great many colors that are by no means neutral are good background colors and possess excellent foiling possibilities. Let us glance at a few non-neutral colors on the score of appropriateness as backgrounds.

Altho gold, silver, aluminum, and lead, being metals, cannot be strictly regarded as colors, their association is so close that they must be considered in conjunction with color.

Their metallic quality, which gives them a position apart in the realm of color, has also endowed them with a partly neutral quality, since their warm and advancing or cool and receding qualities are minimized and they do not affect the inherent qualities of colors juxtaposed to them.

*Color Emphasis.* All of them, including gold, have the effect—in common with white—of heightening the brilliance and raising

the key of juxtaposed colors. All of them are good foils.

Gold is slightly warmer in its quality than the other metals, but it cannot be called warm in the sense that colors are warm, and it is not advancing. It does not diminish the apparent size of a small room.

*Use of Gold.* Of gold, too, it should be added that a complete gold background is quiet and stays in its place. A very little gold in decoration adds distinction and is likewise quiet. It is only when a medium amount of gold is used that it becomes noisy and vulgar. This, indeed, is true of all the metals.

With the strongly developed modern taste for metallic luster and reflections, gold, silver, lead, and aluminum backgrounds might well be more widely employed than they are.

*Red as a Background.* Red, like the metals, has the merit of quietness when used continuously over a large area, like the background of a whole room. No better instance of this could be asked than some of the old Italian rooms whose walls were completely hung with red velvet.

By nature, red is warm and rich, but, in spite of its advancing tendency, in a large room it can make an admirable background.

*Use of Blue.* So, too, can blue; not only the slate-blue, so often seen in old Italian paintings and mosaics, but also deep lapislazuli blue. To be convinced of the rare foiling virtue of blue, you need only look at the flowers or the blooming shrubbery in a garden silhouetted against the blue sky.

Not all blues are so accommodating, but slate-blue, the azure of the sky, and the deep, luminous blue of lapislazuli all make convincing backgrounds.

One of the best tests of background excellence is not dull neutrality but the silhouetting or foiling value for objects or colors placed against it.

## HALLS

1. *Walls*, beige; *woodwork*, black; *ceiling*, cream; *curtains*, crimson semi-glazed chintz; *floor-covering*, black and beige inlaid linoleum.

2. *Walls*, scenic paper in tones of gray; *woodwork*, white; *ceiling*, white; *curtains*, red service taffeta; *floor-covering*, all-over carpeting with figured design.

## LIVING-ROOM

1. *Walls*, two-tone design putty color wallpaper; *woodwork*, to match background of paper; *ceiling*, plain cream; *curtains*, Early American chintz pattern of rose and white; *floor-covering*, red-wine broadloom carpeting.

2. *Walls*, painted soft green; *woodwork*, to match; *ceiling*, shade lighter than walls; *curtains*, crewel-embroidered linen; *floor-covering*, Anglo-Persian rug with rust background.

3. *Walls*, plain white plaster; *woodwork*, walnut stain; *floor-covering*, umber brown rug; *curtains*, cretonne in blue, orange, tan on iron poles.

4. *Walls*, wood paneling in pine or oak; *ceiling*, warm cream; *floor-covering*, oriental rugs in deep blues and reds; *curtains*, crewel-embroidered linen.

## SUNROOM

1. *Walls*, painted lemon color; *woodwork*, to match; *ceiling*, lighter shade; *curtains*, green, yellow, and orange figured chintz; *floor-covering*, black and green inlaid linoleum.

2. *Walls*, stippled in tan with color; *woodwork*, tan to match background; *ceiling*, light tan; *curtains*, floral chintz on green background; *floor-covering*, hunter's green linen rug.

3. *Walls*, gold color; *ceiling*, cream; *woodwork*, same as walls; *floor-covering*, black and white linoleum; *draperies*, green and white modernistic design.

4. *Walls*, gaily colored scenic paper; *ceiling*, to tone with background of paper; *woodwork*, apple-green; *floor-covering*, black and gray linoleum; *draperies*, red glazed chintz.

### DINING-ROOM

1. *Walls*, scenic paper of Colonial pictures; *woodwork*, white; *ceiling*, white; *curtains*, deep rich yellow; *floor-covering*, deep brown linoleum with border line of yellow.

2. *Walls*, cream plaster; *woodwork*, stained walnut; *ceiling*, cream; *curtains*, red brocade; *floor-covering*, Anglo-Persian rug.

3. *Walls*, large figured wallpaper, a rose predominating on cream; *ceiling*, soft tan; *woodwork*, ivory; *floor-covering*, deep gray rug; *draperies*, plain rose; *curtains*, cream voile.

4. *Walls*, green and white crisscross paper; *woodwork*, ivory; *floor-covering*, rug in shades of olive green with a touch of mauve; *draperies*, green ground, rose floral pattern; *curtains*, rose voile.

### BEDROOM

1. *Walls*, blue and white paper; *woodwork*, ivory; *ceiling*, ivory; *curtains*, apricot; *floor-covering*, dark green, floral pattern.

2. *Walls*, yellow plaid paper; *woodwork*, ivory white; *ceiling*, white; *curtains*, yellow glazed chintz with small floral pattern; *floor-covering*, Colonial Vanitie scatter rugs.

### BOY'S ROOM

1. *Walls*, a figured paper of red and blue on white; *woodwork*, blue to match paper; *ceiling*, white; *curtains*, red glazed chintz to match paper; *floor-covering*, small pattern, two-toned shade of blue linoleum.



## GIRL'S ROOM

1. *Walls*, pink paper with deep coral dot; *woodwork*, to match paper; *ceiling*, in cream; *curtains*, apple-green glazed chintz; *floor-covering*, soft green patterned rug.

## NURSERY

1. *Walls*, pink paper with blue star; *woodwork*, soft blue; *ceiling*, cream; *curtains*, glazed blue chintz; *floor-covering*, blue jaspe linoleum.

2. *Walls*, washable fabric; *woodwork*, ivory; *ceilings*, ivory; *curtains*, peach chintz bound with blue; *floor-covering*, Provincial checked linoleum.

## BATHROOM

1. *Walls*, apricot color, washable, figured fabric or tile board; *woodwork*, to match background in fabric; *ceiling*, to match woodwork; *curtains*, sea-green voile; *floor-covering*, black and green inlaid rubber tile.

2. *Walls*, sea-green; *woodwork*, ivory; *ceiling*, ivory; *curtains*, small green and white print; *floor-covering*, green and white checked inlaid linoleum.

3. *Walls*, green-blue paint; *ceiling*, shade lighter; *woodwork*, to match walls; *floor-covering*, green and black linoleum; *curtains*, gold color rubberized silk.

## KITCHEN

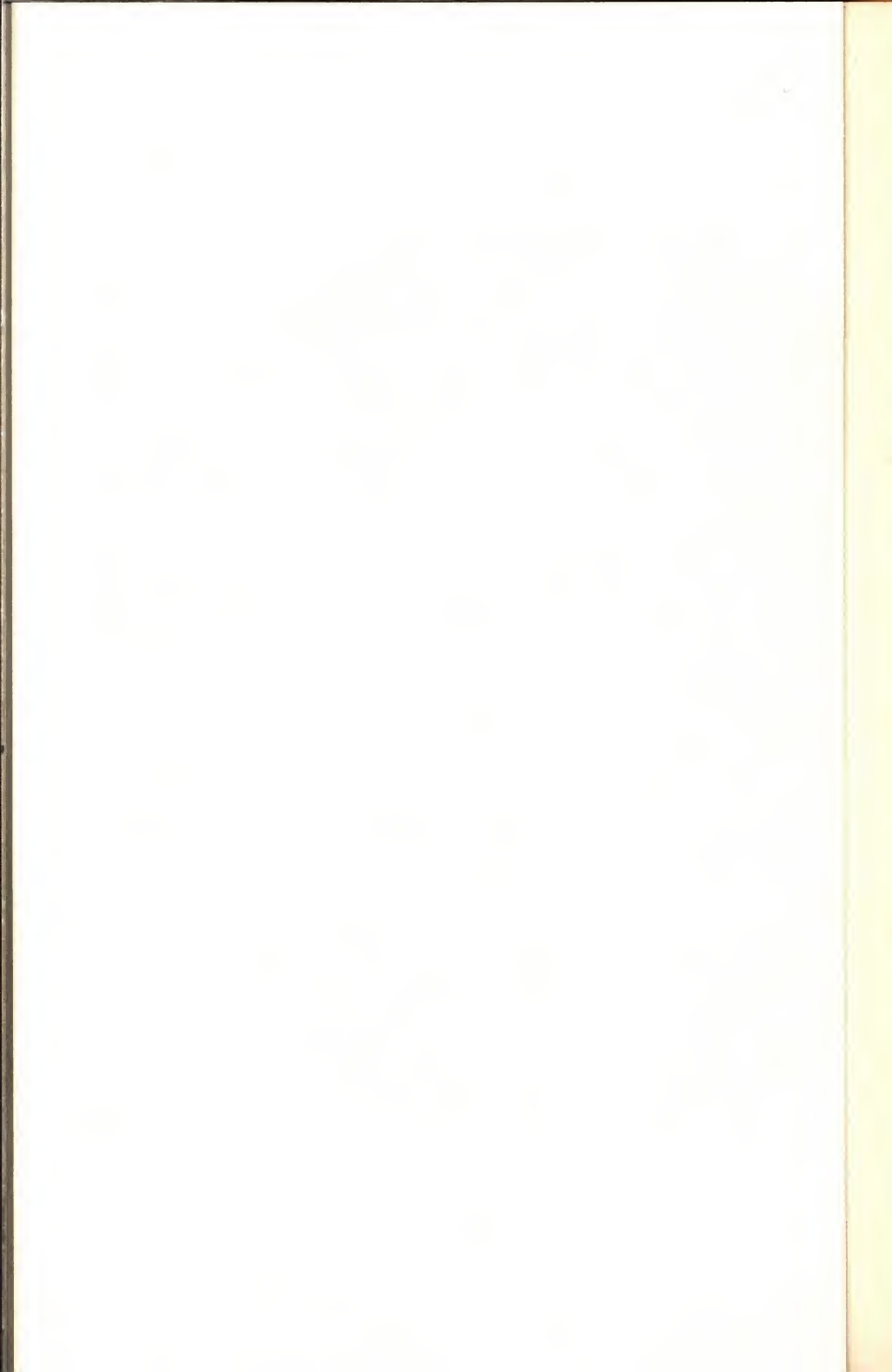
1. *Walls*, light green; *ceiling*, light green; *woodwork*, shade darker of green; *floor-covering*, all-over design in yellow and green linoleum; *curtains*, yellow and white check with touch of black.

2. *Walls*, gray-blue; *ceiling*, gray-blue; *woodwork*, gray-blue; *floor-covering*, marbled effect in blue and red; *curtains*, red percale with small figure.

3. *Walls*, cream; *ceiling*, cream; *woodwork*, cream with black edge; *floor-covering*, black linoleum; *curtains*, red and white check gingham.

4. *Walls*, soft yellow; *ceiling*, cream; *woodwork*, apple-green; *floor-covering*, brown and tan linoleum; *curtains*, green chintz with small rose pattern.





# Study this Chart for Harmonizing Colors

ON THIS color chart we have marked with black stars the five primary colors.

The colors that are found directly across the chart from each other are known as complementary colors, which means that these colors will blend harmoniously if you are planning a color scheme for your rooms.

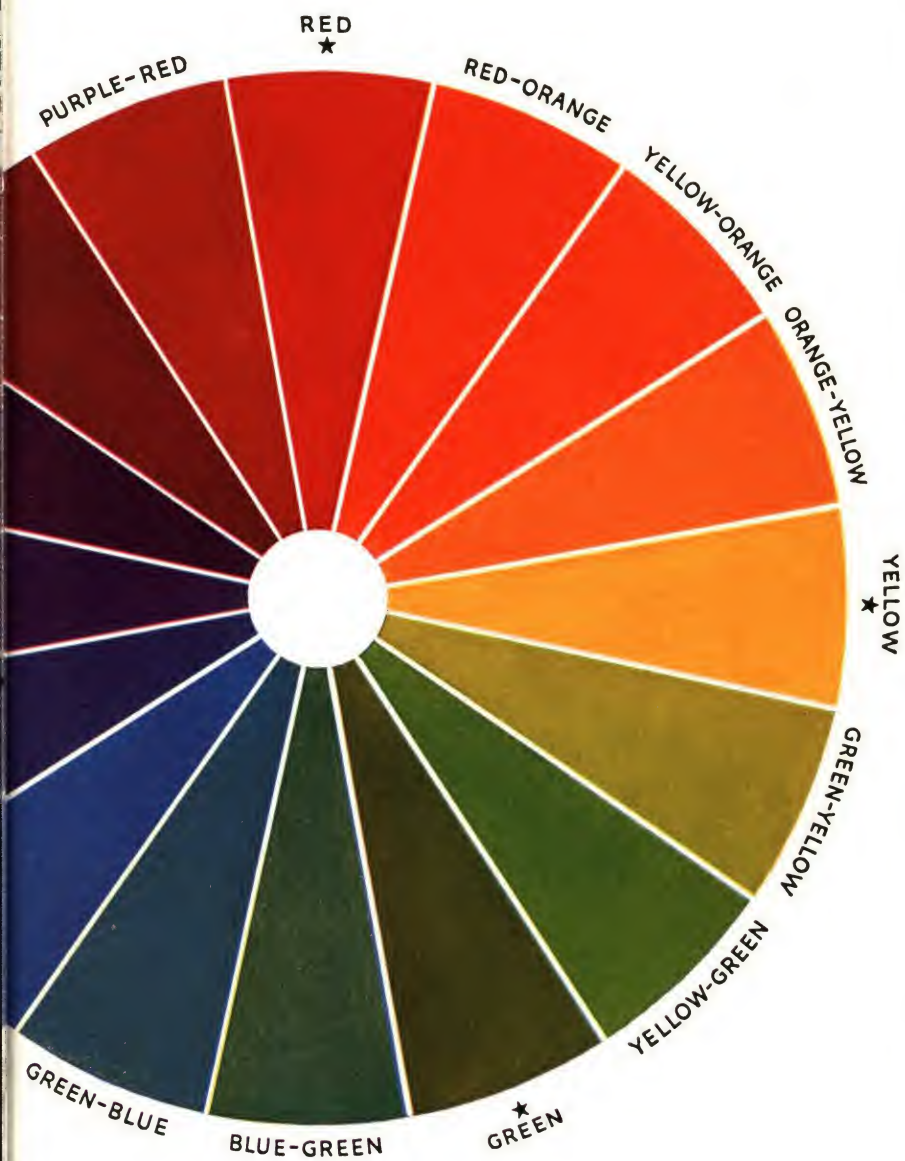
Colors adjacent to the complementary colors can also be used in the color scheme. For example, the complementary color of yellow is blue-purple, and the complementary color of red is blue-green on the chart. Therefore, in the case of yellow, you could also use purple or purple-blue.

The colors in between the stars marking the primary colors are obtained by blending the primary colors.

Let us take, for example, the colors primary green and blue. By allowing blue to dominate in the mixing of these colors you get green-blue and by allowing green to dominate in the mixing of them you will get blue-green.

You can get tints or lighter tones of all these colors by adding white to them. You can obtain shades or darker tones by adding black to them.









# Draperies and Upholstery Should Harmonize

**D**RAPERY and upholstery patterns, designs and colors should be selected with an eye to harmonizing with floor-coverings and walls. Intricate wallpaper and ornate upholstery can be smartly toned down by plain hangings.

Elaborately figured rugs look their best when offset by single or nearly single-colored, small-patterned hangings and upholstery in shades taken from the rug.

*Selection.* Most of all, the home decorator should avoid too much conflicting design in a room.

Drapery and upholstery fabrics must harmonize with the period or type of the furnishings to avoid such inconsistencies as a dainty flowered Marie Antoniette brocade finding itself in a sturdy English Oak dining-room.

*Buying Draperies.* The shopper should also in each case ascertain that fabrics are guaranteed sunfast; and if she expects to wash them, tubfast.

*Present Styles.* The most popular drapery styles are French-pleated and loop-headed effects without valances.

Ruffled and fluted edges, ball

fringes and other trimmings are much employed.

Appropriate hardware also plays a large part in obtaining a pleasing effect. Cornices are attaining a return to grace.

*Ready-Made.* Ready-made draperies are offered complete with hooks and ready to hang at less than the material to make them could be purchased.

*Proper Size.* Insist on full widths of at least 36 inches or more for each drapery, as anything narrower makes a skimpy appearance and lacks charm.

*Color Choice.* Regarding the selection of appropriate colors and fabrics for each room, we cannot offer more than a general scheme, this being primarily an individual problem depending on the type, period, color, and design of furnishings.

*Fabrics.* Suffice to say that the lighter and gayer cretonnes and chintzes are generally regarded as more appropriate for bedrooms; while silks, satins, poplins, taffetas, silk damasks, and similar materials are employed for more formal treatments.



SUNROOM



LIVING-ROOM

- Charm for the sunroom is to be found in curtains of drawn-thread casement cloth which combines well with the bright colors of plaid homespun used as covering on the furniture
- Living-rooms of the Twentieth Century period need handsome draperies and upholstery that combine with Venetian blinds in giving the room an attractive, up-to-date appearance

For dining-rooms and living-rooms, crashes, linens, monk's cloth, and homespun make cool and attractive summer hangings; while damasks, reps, brocades, tapestries, and velvets lend beauty and warmth to more formal or winter decorative schemes.

Plaids are proving an extremely popular innovation for windows.

*For Bedroom.* Attractive bedroom effects are obtained by utilizing a fabric that will lend itself equally to draperies, spread, chair covers, and dressing-table.

Interesting fabrics, as for example scenic chintzes, can also be used to cover screens, in panels on walls, as lamp shades, and lacquered for mantel decorations.

For pillows or the tops of fancy boxes, medallion designs go very nicely. All-over patterns make splendid tie-pads for chairs.

*For Furniture.* Tapestry, friezette, mohair, damask, and linen are the most widely em-



- The draperies of one design and the chair covers of another is a new and good combination in this period dining-room. Semi-glazed chintz has been used for the chairs and curtains, each repeating the color
- A clever idea for the bedroom is to have the curtains in a sea-green, figured voile and the dressing-table petticoat and chair slip covers in a semi-glazed chintz of the same figured design used in the voile

ployed materials for reupholstering furniture because of their attractiveness, long wearing qualities and economical price.

Plush, velvet, chintz, basketweaves and plain and figured jaspes are also much used.

*Curtain Rods.* In mounting your draperies or glass curtains, the rods they hang on should be thoughtfully considered. There are many different types; in fact, there is a special rod for every kind of curtain.

The glass curtain rods that are covered by draperies can afford to be extremely simple.

There are wrought-iron mountings for draperies that are made in the period of the room and its furnishings.

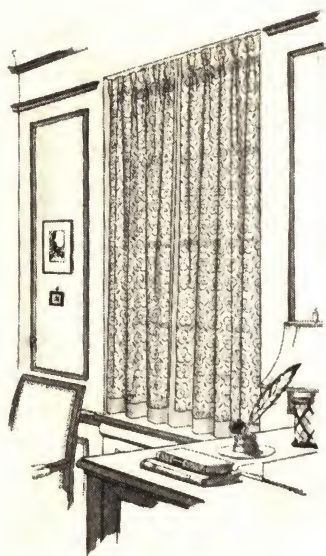
*Mounting Rods.* In mounting your rods on your windows, it is wise to set them well out toward the edge of the window frame as in this way you gain the appearance of a larger window.



DINING-ROOM



BEDROOM



LIVING-ROOM



DINING-ROOM

# For Your

## • Glass Curtains

INDIVIDUALITY can be expressed in the glass curtains you plan for your living-room and dining-room. For these rooms there is a new tendency toward use of more elaborate and patterned materials, even in those of tailored type.

Bedrooms still use softer, more ruffled effects, while kitchens and bathrooms, playrooms and attic rooms logically use fabrics of the simpler weaves.

Smart individual effects can be had in cottage rooms by using dress-goods materials such as gingham and plaids, voiles, and any sunfast, tubfast material.

Plain fringes are not used as much as they were. They are being replaced by the smart ball-fringes of cotton, silk, and even wood.

*Filet Net* is very popular. It is made in a square mesh, while

- Left above: The living-room has lace panels, not shirred-on-the-rod, but tailored, pinch-pleated, and ready to be hung on your living-room windows
- For the dining-room this practical curtain ready-made with a draw-cord can be pulled back or allowed to fall straight. The material is attractive.

# Windows

## *Give Beauty and Warmth*

most lace nets are hexagonal. Attractive patterns may be darned or stitched into the net by machines, providing a charming geometric or lacy effect. Appropriate in living-rooms, dining-rooms, and bedrooms.

*Irish Point or Swiss Point* is probably the most widely known member of the lace family. It is a background of net onto which patterns of muslin are appliquéd. Appropriate for living-rooms and dining-rooms.

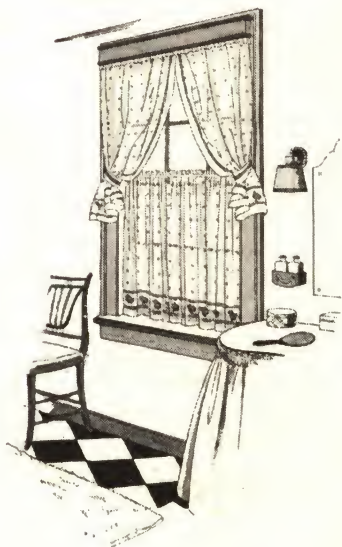
*Point D'Esprit* comprises a fine type of filet net into which small tufts of yarn are introduced at intervals. Lace motifs are often embroidered into the border. Appropriate in living-rooms, dining-rooms, and bedrooms.

*Bobbinet* is a hexagonal mesh net constructed of a coarse yarn. It is suitable in living-rooms, dining-rooms and halls.

- Right above: Two sets, charming and soft-frilled, is the idea in choice of color for the informally furnished bedroom, appropriate for any home
- The cottage-type curtain, so desirable for bedroom, bathroom, and kitchen, where privacy and light are real needs



BEDROOM



BATHROOM



*Shadow Lace* is a name given to various machine-made reproductions of imported laces. The most intricate old-world designs are copied. This material is appropriate in living-rooms and dining-rooms.

*Brussels* is a soft, dainty lace with a graceful rather open design. It is suitable for living-rooms and dining-rooms.

*Point De Venise* is a soft, dainty lace characterized by graceful, scroll-like designs raised one upon the other. It is appropriate in living-rooms and dining-rooms.

*Casement Cloth* is made in a number of plain and figured meshes. Because of its opaqueness it is extensively employed for draw curtains. It is used in halls, living-rooms, dining-rooms, men's rooms, and sunrooms.

*Voile* is a light, sheer fabric. Woven of specially treated twofold, wet-twisted yarn, it has a wiry texture and does not easily crush. Appropriate for living-rooms, dining-rooms, halls, bedrooms, and sunrooms.

*Gauze*—silk or cotton—is a name given to a thousand varieties of fine, sheer fabrics woven in multi-shaped open meshes on variations of the twist-warp system, such as the well-known theatrical gauze. It is used for tailored, panel, or glass curtains. Theatri-

cal gauze is popular and is properly not a gauze at all, but rather an extremely coarse linen-threaded scrim. It can be successfully used in any room.

*Madras* is a material resembling grenadine but is a much more costly curtain fabric because it has an intricate weave and is usually imported. It can be used in bedrooms and other rooms.

*Organdy, or Lawn*, is a closely woven, smooth-textured material of the muslin type. Made of thin, fine thread, it is usually stiffened in the finishing to give it body. Can be used in any room.

*Marquissette* is a widely known, popular material of the square mesh interlocking type of fabrics. The threads are somewhat heavier and stronger than those used for voile. Can be used in all rooms.

*French Marquissette* is a delicate material, utilizing fine threads and a close weave. Quite similar to voile in appearance, the distinguishing characteristic is the interlocking twist feature possessed by French marquissette and lacking in voile. Suitable for all rooms.

*Grenadine*, while constructed similar to marquissette, is more closely woven and gives a sheerer appearance due to the more delicate threads used so that a more

open mesh is obtained. Attractive figured patterns are often woven into grenadine by the use of a Jacquard Loom. Can be used in bedrooms and kitchens.

*Scrim*, altho coarser and heavier in texture, is similar in weave to voile, ordinarily less expensive and sometimes constructed of single as well as two-ply yarn, which is usually not wet-twisted. It can be used in kitchens, bathrooms, dining-nooks, and bedrooms.

*Buying Curtains.* Keep in mind these important facts when you buy curtains:

1. When selecting colored curtains take care to ascertain that they are both sunfast and tubfast and that patterns and colorings will not clash with other furnishings.

2. Your new curtains should be wide enough and long enough for your windows; two 27-inch ruffled curtains, for example, make an extremely skimpy effect on a 50-inch window.

3. When you buy dotted curtains, be sure the dots are not synthetically inserted, so that they will pull or wash out, but are self-dots and woven right into the material.

4. The best quality of cotton has a long fiber. The best silk is the softest and most pliable.

5. Avoid materials that will easily stretch or pull out of shape.

6. When buying curtains remember that the cheap are always dear in the long run, one season being the life of a cheap curtain, three or four the life of a good one.

*Making Curtains.* 1. Size up your curtaining problem in a commonsense way. Do not be afraid to show originality and individuality. Remember that effect is what you want and if your windows seem to demand a "different" length of curtain, do not be afraid to vary the usual standard lengths.

2. In measuring for glass curtains or draperies, it is preferable to use a yardstick rather than a tape measure. The tape is very apt to stretch with age, thereby throwing off your yard count with dire consequences. Measure the center fold in cutting lengths.

3. Take your measurements carefully and set them down exactly before you go to the store to buy your curtain materials. Refer to these measurements again before you cut the individual curtain lengths.

4. In making measurements, allow for shrinkage in such materials as are likely to shrink after washing or dry cleaning.



# Window Shades

- *You May Obtain Them in Color to Harmonize with Room's Background*

WINDOW shades are a necessity in a home. Some form of blind is needed as a protection to the home furnishings, and even to the curtains and draperies if the room's exposure is on the sunny side of the house.

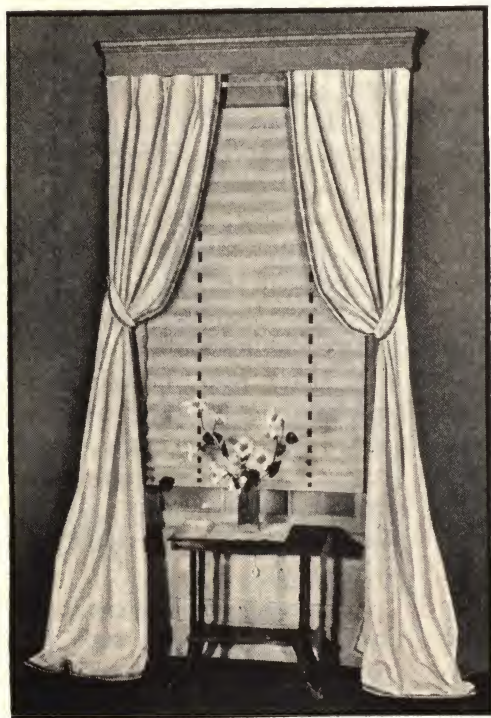
A wide choice of colors is avail-

able for selection, but the important and deciding factor is that the shade be an attractive part of the room's background.

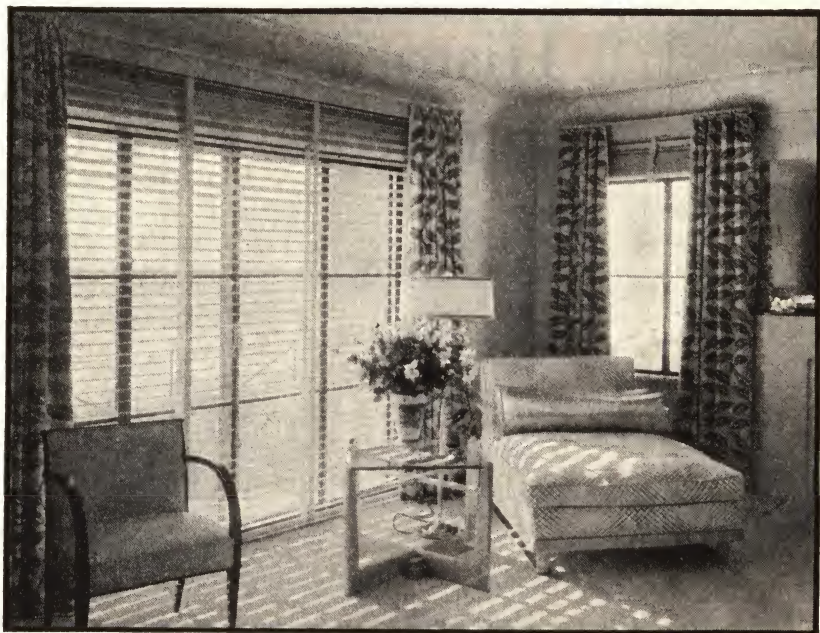
Window shades should always be drawn at one level thruout a house so as to give the home a uniform appearance from the street.

In furnishing the home with window shades, you may choose them to suit your interior color scheme, but remember that a wide variety of colors that might harmonize with your rooms could prove very distracting to your neighbors. This problem of exterior uniformity can be solved by duplex shades that are one color on one side and another color on the other.

- A new idea is a shade made of ordinary pleated window shade material. The tapes may be in contrasting colors. The shade can be adjusted from either top or bottom to control circulation according to the need



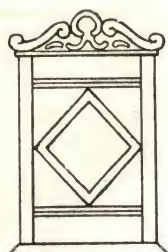




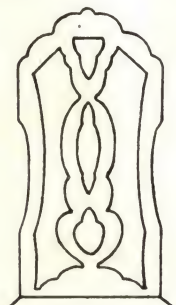
- You should carefully choose your window shades to blend with the background color of your walls. They may be obtained in many colors, but remember to consider the appearance of the shades from the outside



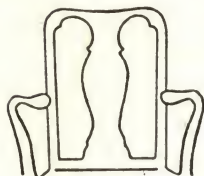
- Venetian blinds, as well as being smart notes in modern decorating, furnish almost perfect control of air and light. You can have privacy and the light is easily deflected either up or down



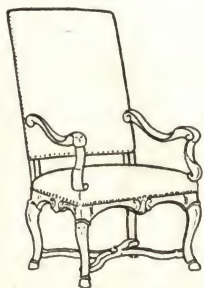
JACOBEBAN



WILLIAM AND MARY



QUEEN ANNE



LOUIS XIV



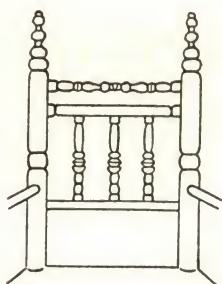
LOUIS XV



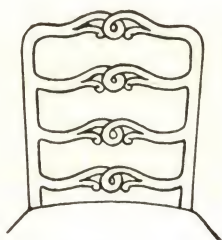
LOUIS XVI

# Historic Dates in Furniture Periods

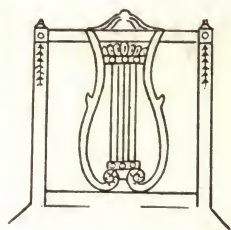
Jacobean.....	1603 — 1688
William and Mary.....	1688 — 1702
Queen Anne.....	1702 — 1750
Louis XIV.....	1643 — 1715
Louis XV.....	1715 — 1774
Louis XVI.....	1774 — 1792
Early American.....	1620 — 1750
Chippendale.....	1740 — 1780
Adams.....	1762 — 1792
Hepplewhite.....	1765 — 1800
Sheraton.....	1775 — 1810
Duncan Phyfe.....	1768 — 1854
American Empire.....	1795 — 1830
Victorian.....	1830 — 1870
Modern.....	About 1920



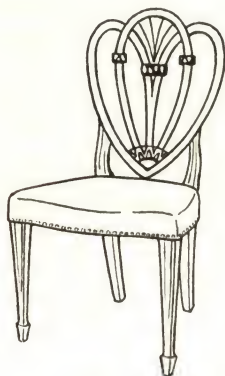
EARLY AMERICAN



CHIPPENDALE



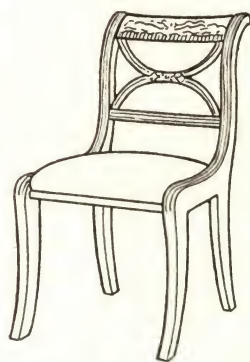
ADAM



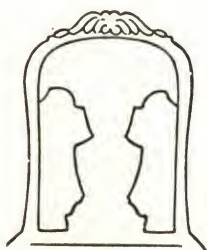
HEPPLEWHITE



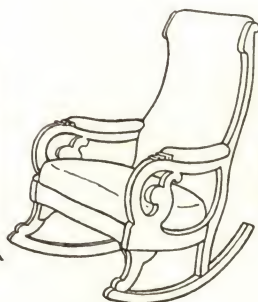
SHERATON



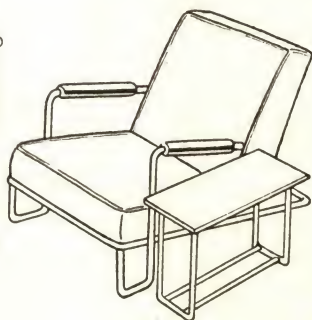
DUNCAN PHYFE



AMERICAN  
EMPIRE



VICTORIAN



MODERN



# When You Buy Furniture

## *How You Can Distinguish Good Furniture from That of Inferior Quality*

TO THE casual observer a table is just so much table, and yet we know that there are differences in tables and other furniture that may make one piece merely commonplace and another a masterpiece.

What should we look for in buying furniture? Well, having decided on the period or style and wood of the desired furniture, the first thing that should then have our attention is the finish.

*Finish.* Finishes may be glossy, dull, or matt-surfaced. They may be of varnish, lacquer, or waxed shellac. The build—that is, the thickness of film—may be deep or slight.

*Oak.* Oak nowadays is usually given one or two comparatively thin coats of finish, often without the wood's having first been filled. After sanding it is ordinarily waxed and may then be dusted with rottenstone to kill off, in a degree, the newness.

*Walnut.* It is customary to fill walnut before varnishing or lacquering. Filling closes the pores of the wood and permits the

finishing material to bridge over the softer portions of the surface, which otherwise would suck it up like a sponge.

A properly filled piece of furniture will be minus pinholes and streaks, which are caused by minute holes left unfilled in the filling operation.

*Mahogany.* Mahogany is always filled and in general has a well-built-up finish—that is, a generous amount of varnish or lacquer is applied. A good varnish will bring out the beauty of the wood it covers.

*Good Quality.* With the foregoing in mind, suppose we are interested in a Jacobean oak buffet. If it is a high-quality piece it will probably be finished in lacquer or shellac or wax. Likely the wood is unfilled, the staining is hand done, and the piece intelligently antiqued.

If rottenstone has been used it has been carefully wiped off and just a very little left in the corners and crevices. The whole piece has been given an effect closely resembling the patina of an old



and highly valuable antique.

*Inferior Pieces.* The cheap buffet of similar size and design may be coated with flat-effect varnish or lacquer. The antiquing will be done with a spray gun and almost invariably will be overdone.

The high-grade piece of furniture will be soft and smooth to the touch, while the cheaper piece will be noticeably rougher. At a distance both pieces may look alike, but closer examination will show great differences.

*Walnut Grades.* Let us examine two spinet desks made of walnut. The price of one may be twice that of the other and yet the

- Quality of finish of dining-room furniture is of utmost importance to a room's appearance

first is not larger nor does it contain more lumber than the other.

*Expensive Desk.* The higher-priced desk will most likely be finished with a well-built up lacquer or varnish coating. The wood will have been smoothly sanded, staining done artistically, the lacquer or varnish rubbed satin smooth with oil and powdered pumice stone and then washed off with soap and water to remove all traces of oil and pumice.

*Cheaper Grade.* The cheaper desk, on the other hand, will be



finished with a dull varnish or lacquer which makes unnecessary the hand-rubbing operation, sanding will have been slighted—as evinced by “pimples”—and we may find “runs” of varnish or lacquer, especially around corner blocks and in corners where surplus varnish or lacquer has not been sanded or rubbed away.

*Mahogany Grades.* Let us now compare two mahogany living-room tables of equal size but with a great disparity in price.

The cheap table may be coated with either a high-gloss varnish or a dull lacquer. In either case there has been little or no oil and pumice rubbing.

If the table has drawers these may be unstained and coated with a high-gloss cheap lacquer or varnish. The under sides will be untouched. By contrast the fine table will be oil rubbed to a glass-like satin smoothness. Drawers will be nicely rubbed and the under sides coated. The cheap table is obviously new, while the quality table shows its refinement in every detail.

*Construction.* The cheapest chair as well as the most expensive one may have the same number of legs, stretchers, and spindles, yet the one sells for one-third the price of the other, and in either case the buyer will get his

money's worth. What is the answer?

The one chair has gracefully turned legs and spindles which have been smoothly sanded and all sharp corners softly rounded. The seat is properly cupped, with no sharp edges left; hence the entire piece shows its quality in every line.

The other chair may be just as sturdy, but the turnings will be poorly sanded, if at all. Edges have been left sharp. The seat, if cupped, will show a hard and sharp line. It will probably “feel” heavier than the better chair because of poorer balance.

*Paneled Furniture.* Except where style permits sufficiently heavy construction, good cabinet practice is the use of five-ply panels for tops of tables, buffets, servers, dressers, and similar pieces. The ends of cases are usually three-ply in cheap construction, five-ply in quality work. Being built into the case, it is difficult to determine which has been used. Three-ply panels may show evidence of buckling or waves if carefully examined. Five-ply panels usually hold their shape.

*Wood Substitute.* To cheapen the cost of furniture, wood substitution is often resorted to. It is common to find gumwood used in



place of walnut or mahogany and birch for mahogany. Gum is a fine cabinet wood and finishes beautifully in its natural color or lightly stained.

When substituted for walnut or mahogany and stained dark it takes on a muddy cast quite unlike the woods which it replaces.

Real quality furniture, on the other hand, tolerates no substitution. Faces of panels and all exposed portions will be of the wood specified. This does not refer to overlays of other woods which are applied for ornamentation.

*Dustproof Feature.* Dustproof construction is an essential in good furniture. Backs and bottoms should be inclosed and each drawer in cases separated from the others by thin three-ply panels. Drawers should be equipped with center guides to insure easy handling.

A well-fitted drawer should slide without much effort. Proper cabinetwork allows for swelling in damp weather. Drawer sides and backs in quality furniture are usually made of quartered white oak, sycamore, mahogany, or walnut.

- The value of furniture that receives wear and tear is to be found in its hidden construction

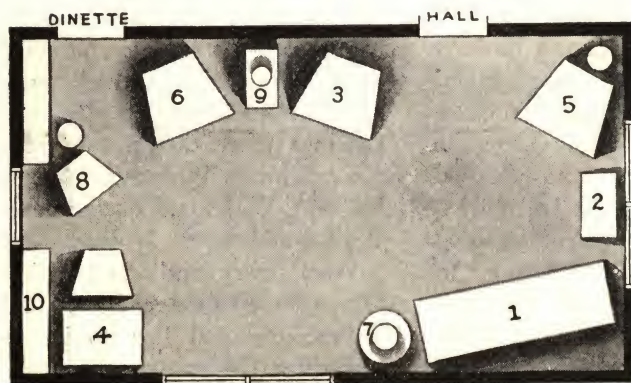
*Machine Carving.* With the advent of costly machine carvers carved furniture of genuine merit has been brought within the reach of most people. These machines do the work of many carvers. Nevertheless, where the character of the furniture requires it, considerable handwork is done on carvings after they come from the machines. Where costs must be kept low, little or no hand work is added.

Wood fiber and composition carvings are quite generally used on medium and low grades of furniture. On painted furniture this use is not objectionable, for the paint conceals the texture of



# Everyday Errors in Room

• *And How They Can Be Corrected*

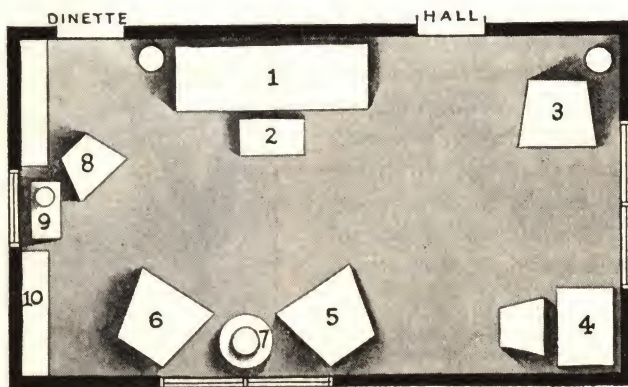


•  
WRONG  
•

**BEFORE:** This room is lacking in an inviting furniture grouping. Chairs have their backs to doors and the davenport is askew. All the height is directed toward one end of the room, with the secretary making the books almost inaccessible.

**AFTER:** Place the heaviest piece of furniture in the largest wall space, creating balance. Let the secretary give the height to the books at the opposite end. Without a fireplace the chairs can be grouped very conveniently near the large window.

**KEY:** (1) davenport, (2) coffee table, (3) club chair, (4) secretary and chair, (5) Coxwell chair, (6) wing chair, (7) reading table, (8) open armchair, (9) book table, (10) bookcases.

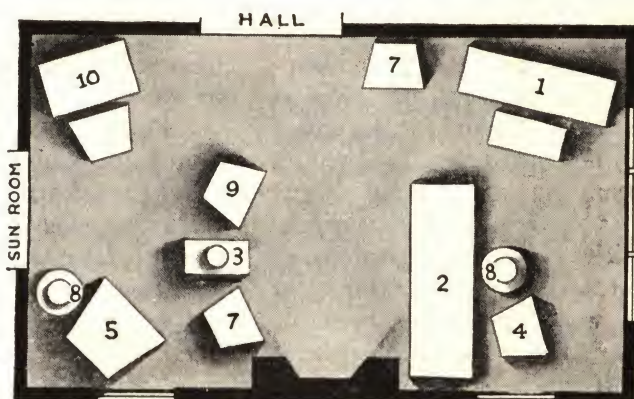


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# Arrangement

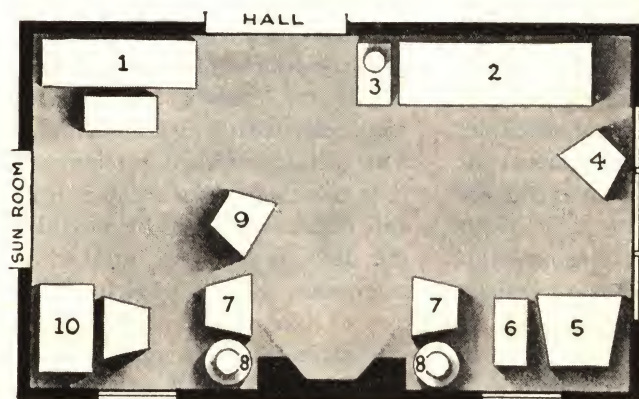
WRONG



**BEFORE:** The furniture arrangement around the fireplace in this room is over-emphasized at the expense of the rest of the room. A sense of order and repose is lost by placing the piano and desk at oblique angles instead of against the wall.

**AFTER:** Here the same furniture is arranged in harmony with the fireplace, windows, and traffic lanes. The group of windows is featured and by the fireplace is a well-balanced and convenient grouping of the chairs with the lamps and tables.

**KEY:** (1) piano and bench, (2) davenport, (3) book table and lamp, (4) pull-up chair, (5) wing chair, (6) endtable, (7) over-stuffed chairs, (8) drum tables, (9) tub chair, (10) desk and chair



RIGHT



both flat surfaces and carvings.

*Swirl Veneers.* With the renewed attention to mahogany, which found its expression in reproductions and adaptations of Sheraton, Hepplewhite, and Duncan Phyfe designs, has come an enormous demand for the crotch veneers necessary to produce them.

As a result, swirl veneers, which are leftover portions of crotch veneers after the best of the wood's figure has been cut away, have been substituted. Swirl panels cost from 50 to 60 percent more than nice striped

mahogany panels, whereas the fine crotch panels are about six times as costly. It is very important, therefore, to know whether the veneers used on a mahogany piece of furniture are real crotches or are the cheaper swirls.

*Dowels.* Doweled construction is accepted as correct practice for case goods. Dowels are small pins glued into holes bored in the parts to be joined. To insure rigidity, glue blocks which are small triangular pieces of wood, are glued to the insides of cases and under tops of tables. Look beneath before you buy.

### *Scuffs, Scratches, and Blemishes and How to Eliminate Them*

**F**OR all light blemishes, such as pin scratches, scuff marks, and the like, where the abrasion does not go clear thru the finish, first try polishing them out with furniture polish. You will find that most of them can be polished out, or at least rendered unnoticeable, except perhaps on some conspicuous surface in an extremely well-lighted place.

*How to Polish.* In using furniture polish, use plenty of "elbow grease" and as much pressure as possible. Do not expect to polish out these deep-seated marks with

a few light strokes over the surface. It usually takes 15 or 20 minutes' good hard work to go over a table top.

*Use of Oil.* In case the injury does not polish out with furniture polish, try rubbing the surface vigorously with boiled linseed oil. This will darken the scratch more than the average furniture polish and may conceal the blemish. If the defect still shows after this treatment, retouch it with stain, dye, or color of some sort.

*Stain Wood.* One method is to stain the wood with penetrating

wood stain, the same as is used for finishing interior woodwork and furniture. Apply it to the damaged places with a small artists' brush. Then apply a thin coating of white shellac which has been reduced one-third with denatured alcohol.

When it is thoroly dry rub lightly over the shellacked places with powdered pumice stone and oil. This will subdue the gloss of the fresh shellac and match it to the original finish.

*Matching Finish.* Pour a little of the powdered pumice into a saucer or other shallow container, a little of the oil into another saucer. Fold a piece of cloth over the forefinger; dip first in the pumice, then in the oil; then rub lightly over the freshly shellacked places.

When you are thru rubbing, wipe off the fine oil-mixed grit. In case the rubbed places have been made too dull to correspond with the original finish, polish the entire surface with furniture polish.

*Dyeing Wood.* Household dyes for wool (not cotton), in browns, yellow, or reds, can also be used very satisfactorily for staining the wood. Almost any finish can be approximated by mixing two or more of these colors.

Artists' or painters' oil colors,

reduced with turpentine, may also be used for coloring the wood. With raw umber, burnt sienna, yellow ochre, and red, you can blend a shade to approximate practically any finish.

*Varnish-Stain.* Another method, which will be found satisfactory when the closest match is not necessary, is to use varnish-stain (stain and varnish combined), which may be obtained at all paint stores in most of the popular hardwood effects. If the touched-up places are too glossy for the rest of the finish, rub them with powdered pumice and oil, as previously described.

*How to Shellac.* Stick shellac is used by heating a screwdriver point just sufficiently to melt the shellac. Hold the stick over the defect and melt the shellac into it with the hot iron, in the same manner as you would use solder or sealing wax.

Dampen one of your fingers and pack the soft, pliable shellac into the cavity. Melt in a little more, then pack down again until the filling slightly overfills the depression. Be careful not to let the hot iron get against the surrounding finish when doing the work.

When cool the shellac will have become thoroly hard but may be pared off even with the surface with a knife or chisel held flat.



- This attractive chest of drawers, placed in the dining-room, can be used to hold linens and also for storing children's games

Needless to say, the work should be very carefully done; in fact, on very fine, high-priced furniture, it is a job for an expert.

After the shellac filling has been pared off even with the surface, rub the filled places with powdered pumice and oil, and, if you find it necessary, polish the entire surface with rottenstone and oil, as previously described.

*Wax as Filler.* Sealing wax can also be used as a filler. Sealing wax is used in exactly the same way as stick shellac, just described, and is probably easier

for the average inexperienced person to use.

*Hot Dish Marks.* These can often be polished out with furniture polish, especially when they do not go down deeply into the finish. If this does not take them out, try rubbing with pumice and oil, as previously described. Rub very lightly, however, and do not use more than five or six strokes, so as not to cut thru the finish.

*Finish Entire Top.* If the marks cannot be taken out with the pumice-rubbing, the best thing to do—unless your table is



a very fine one—is to give the entire top a coat of high-grade finishing varnish.

If you have a really fine table you should, by all means, have it refinished by an expert. For the average dining-room table, however, you can do the work yourself. Simply sandpaper the old finish lightly, dust clean, and flow on a uniformly even coat of varnish.

When thoroly dry take a piece of steel wool, wet it thoroly with raw linseed oil, and rub over the surface (following the grain with long strokes) to smooth down any projecting dust and dirt nibs and take away the glare of the gloss varnish.

*Light Blemishes.* A grayish, cloudy effect is often produced by placing a wet towel or bathing suit on a varnished piece. This is sometimes of a temporary nature.

*Rub Vigorously.* Vigorous rubbing with furniture polish may remove these blemishes. If it does not, one coat of varnish applied over the old finish will take away the discoloration entirely, so it will not show in the least when the new varnish coat has dried.

*Perfume Stains.* Now let us see what can be done with a dresser on which perfume has been spilled. If the old finish has only been roughened a very little, pos-

sibly it can be smoothed off and made to appear uniform with the rest of the surface by rubbing the damaged spot lightly with powdered pumice and oil, then polishing the entire surface with rottenstone and oil.

*Touch-up Job.* If the old finish has been damaged deeply, possibly clear to the wood, a touch-up job can be satisfactorily done by the home-finisher on any but the finest furniture.

First sand down the damaged spot, feathering or tapering the edges of the injured places so they will slope up to the surrounding finish. Then apply two, or possibly three, thin coats of high-grade finishing varnish on the damaged spots only, putting it on especially thin on the tapering part of the surface.

After the finish has been built up in this way in the touched-up place, see if it joins in evenly with the surrounding finish. If not, smooth it off with a few strokes of powdered pumice and water (instead of oil; see following paragraph). Then sandpaper the old finish over the entire dresser top and apply one full coat of varnish over the entire surface.

*Before Varnishing.* The oil-mixed grit should be thoroly removed from the surface with highest gasoline, naphtha, or benzene.

# Fireplaces

## ● *The Gathering Place of the Family*

THE fireplace, no matter how small, is the gathering place of the whole family. From early fall thru winter to late spring a fire should be set ready to light at a moment's notice.

Attractive gas fire logs can be installed in the fireplace, often

proving more practical than wood for use in bedrooms or small rooms. Coal can be used by simply placing a metal basket where the wood is ordinarily burned.

As a rule, the fireplace centers the decorative note in the room and so determines in a large meas-

ure the character of the furnishings, their arrangement and even the style.

The picture or over-mantel decoration, and the arrangement on the mantel should be carefully planned.



- The wall about a corner fireplace is difficult to arrange—but here is an attractive and original way of grouping small prints that fill the space and lend warmth of color





- When a room is large enough, a comfortable couch can be drawn up in front of the fireplace and a successful grouping achieved with comfortable chairs placed conveniently on each side of the fireplace

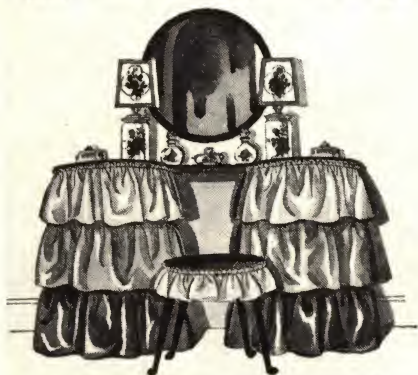


- Modern simplicity is at its height in the handling of this fireplace. Simple white walls are accented by the color in the painting and furnishings

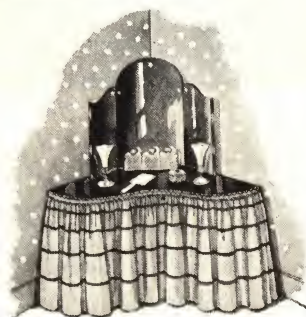


# Dressing-Table Ideas

Right: This table is suitable in an Early American bedroom. Use glazed or unglazed chintz with attractive ball fringe



Here is a triple-tier dressing-table effect you can make with shaded ruffles of taffeta, organdie or glazed chintz of only one color



Peach-color bands are held together with rickrack braid in blue or green. Black paint is under the table glass



Above: We have used a ready-made dressing-table skirt available with floral pattern on dark brown, tan, gold, or green. Right: A dressing table for an Early American or Provincial room can be made with a sun-fast plaid in turquoise and orange



# How You Can Use Painted Furniture

## • *There's Always Room for Painted Pieces*

**P**AINTED furniture may be successfully employed to supplement other pieces or to furnish a room thruout.

A single piece, or perhaps two, in Chinese red or jade green—antiqued, of course—can be pleasingly combined with solid mahogany or other fine wood. For such use a gateleg or round tilt-top table is a good selection, or a coffee table, footstool, or hanging bookshelves. If a larger piece is desired a desk secretary is pleasing and extremely useful.

*For the Dining-room.* A dining-room may be attractively and inexpensively furnished thruout with painted and decorated furniture.

It is also possible to combine a painted cupboard or a buffet with an antique English table and chairs of the same style; or the plan may be reversed, of using, say, a solid mahogany or rosewood sideboard with table and chairs and that have been painted and antiqued.

*Maple Furniture.* Another excellent combination for a dining-room, and one in which the finish is particularly easy, is the use of a solid maple table with chairs of simple design, stained and finished with flat varnish.

One may also be combined with these pieces finished with a flat varnish finish. With painted pieces you can also use a decalcomania, which is a transfer design, on the table tops, center of drawers, and on the slats of chair backs. Add a cushioned seat of an old-fashioned print tied at each corner to the chair and you will give an appearance that is simple and quaint, eliminating any look of a cheap imitation.

*Bedrooms.* In a nursery or bedroom, as in a dining-room, the plan may be followed of furnishing thruout with painted furniture or of using a combination. For bedrooms an excellent selection is offered in useful pieces that make it possible to have an extra chiffonier or a vanity dressing





- A dressing table that can be painted and draped is a convenience in any bedroom. It will harmonize well with almost any type of finished wood you have

table, obtainable in very small sizes, to fit an otherwise unusable small space.

*How to Paint.* As to the finishing of furniture the two fundamentals for good results are these, good paint and good brushes, and the necessary accessories.

You must work carefully and in the correct order or procedure, remembering that the results of carelessness in one step of the work cannot be rectified in the next step; in other words, if your surface is not properly prepared, or if the priming coat is faultily applied, no amount of time and care spent on the finishing coat

will give the good results desired.

*Clean Surface.* First of all, surfaces must be clean and absolutely smooth. Some sandpapering is almost always necessary, and with the cheaper grades of furniture extensive sandpapering is usually required. Following this step, the surface should be thoroughly dusted to remove the slight remains of sawdust left by the sandpapering.

Next comes your selection of paint and brushes. Choose a brush of medium size and one with good bristles. No matter what the finish, flat paint must be used for undercoat work. Never apply one coat of enamel on top



of another newly applied coat.

*Enamels.* Enamel should be flowed on with a fairly full brush and gone over as little as possible. Lacquer should be flowed on with a full brush and not retouched or you risk ruining the finish. You must use a specially prepared lacquer undercoat. Flat paint may be used for a finishing coat. Quick-drying enamel, which dries in four to six hours, gives a very slight gloss and an extremely smooth surface. It is particularly easy to apply.

*New Wood.* New wood requires three coats for the most perfect finish. However, a good

finish can often be obtained with two coats unless the wood is extremely porous and absorptive. If it is, a paste wood filler should be used after sandpapering. Wood of this type, however, is not likely to be found in unfinished furniture.

If the finish is to be enameled and you are in doubt as to whether one undercoat is sufficient, apply the undercoat and, when dry, a little enamel to some undersurface. If the enamel does not cover properly, use a second flat coat before enameling.

*Undercoating.* If you are painting pieces of several differ-

- A painted gateleg table that can be used anywhere in the home. It is equally appropriate in the dining-room and sunporch



ent colors, it will save paint and labor to use white or any single light color for the undercoats of each.

If you have an old piece of furniture that you think is of genuinely beautiful wood underneath the present finish, think twice before you paint it. It is wrong to cover good old seasoned wood with paint. Ascertain the type of wood it is and stain it with the color that is natural to that wood.

*Paint Legs First.* Work will also be made easier if you tip the chairs and small tables upside down and paint the legs and underparts, then set the piece right side up and finish the work. You will find it easier, too, to set small pieces on a table while painting so that your back will not tire from bending.

It is wise always to try the color or stain that you are going to use on a piece of wood or an underpart of the furniture that is to be painted. Be sure to spread ample newspapers on the floor before starting your work.

- A painted chair or stool makes a decorative note in an otherwise somber setting. It can be combined with almost any fine wood for an attractive effect

Other points to remember are these:

*Keep Clear of Dust.* Work in a well-ventilated room but not near a windy, open window or out-of-doors, for particles of dust settling in wet paint will mar the finish. An electric fan will aid ventilation, hasten drying, and help to dispel the paint fumes.

*Decorating.* Decorating is an extremely important part of the finish. There are few if any pieces which cannot be vastly improved with antiquing except for kitchen, porch, and bathroom furniture.

*Mixing Paints.* The easiest method is to use a paint pigment, taking out a little at a time



A bed of this type can be painted or even stained to match the other furniture in the bedroom. Another painted piece in the same room will usually look well



in a saucer or other flat container, making it quite thin with turpentine and very little linseed oil. Apply this with a crumpled wad of cheesecloth, or, for a large surface, with a piece of bath towel- ing. Burnt umber is almost always used except over Chinese red, in which case black pigment is preferable. The thinned pigment is dabbled on in splotches to give an uneven, misty effect. Knobs, grooves, corners, or drawers and corners of table tops should be made considerably darker than large flat surfaces.

*Use of Glazing.* Another method is to apply with a brush a glazing liquid which is transpar-

ent and while it is wet to dabble on the burnt umber or black pigment unthinned.

Remember in choosing your paint color that the antiquing finishing process will dull its brightness considerably.

*More Decoration.* Striping the edges of tables and chair backs with contrasting or harmonizing color is another type of decoration not too difficult for the amateur. Use an artist's brush. Stripe only definitely defined surfaces, such as the vertical edge around a table top, rather than the horizontal edge of the top itself. Keep a cloth at hand to wipe off mistakes, and the results will be neat.



# How to Hang Pictures

## • *Selection and Placing of Pictures Are Tests of Good Taste*

SELECTION of pictures for the home is a personal matter of taste, but placing them effectively is something all of us should study and learn.

There are a few rules about hanging pictures that we should all bear in mind—remembering, however, that rules may be broken with excellent effect, provided the breaking is in the name of refreshing and pleasant variety and adventurous good taste. Just to be different in furnishing has no particular justification in itself; but originality in achieving a fresh and harmonious effect is always welcome.

*“Eye Level” Rule.* There is the fundamental rule that pictures be hung at eye level at a fairly uniform height around the room. Such uniformity creates a feeling of order and restfulness and avoids any impression of haphazard lack of planning. The rule of uniformity, however, allows radical and effective departure, but one should remember that every pleasing decorative effect, even tho it is irregular, should

follow some underlying principle.

Small pictures should be hung “blind”; that is, by a small nail concealed behind the picture. Larger ones may be hung by two parallel cords if safe support demands it.

*Mantel Picture.* The picture in the space above the average mantel is of necessity a little higher than eye level. As it thus dominates the room, it should be chosen as the keynote of color and interest. This means that its prevailing color, or perhaps one of its details of color, should echo some color that is prominent in the draperies or other features of the room; also that its subject be one that pleases and interests those in the home.

*Above Davenport.* The space above the davenport, usually a large horizontal expanse, invites some originality and variation of picture adornment. Altho one large framed picture, horizontal in shape, is often effective, an ornamental or beveled mirror, centrally placed, with a symmetrical grouping of small pictures on each



side of it, is sure to be interesting.

The small pictures should be of somewhat related subjects and framed similarly. A print, set as a panel in the frame with the mirror, above it or below, is decorative. A vertical wall space demands a picture of similar general proportions and smaller.

*Handling Defects.* Too often a light bracket is set in the wall so that it mars the extent of space.

- It is a good idea when hanging small pictures to group them together. Pictures that are light enough should be hung "blind" with their cords hidden as above

It lessens the evil to group pictures about the bracket so that it becomes a part of a symmetrical arrangement and the defect is turned to advantage.

Your pictures should be personal expressions of your taste.



# The Use of Slip Covers in the Home

- *They Brighten a Room and Lengthen the Life of Your Furniture*

I LIKE to think of a gracious room as having personality, a personality that beckons to comfort and to beauty, that gives you a decided impression of liking to stay and of wanting to come again, soon and often. There are rooms like that, you know! And one of the easiest and best ways to attain such a gracious and beautiful room is thru the use of slip covers.

If yours is the long-established home with furniture accumulated over a period of years, you will achieve congeniality and unity with a few of just the right coverings. Or if you have purchased furniture in suites but find that too much of one sort of upholstery or design gives a crowded effect, try an occasional contrasting "furniture petticoat" for the illusion of spaciousness.

*Slip Covers.* A slip cover, of course, is the obvious treatment for the piece of furniture about to become shabby. And to give

your home the subtlety of change, replace winter with summer slip covers (and vice versa) when nature changes her seasons.

There are as many different types of slip covers as there are people, or as there are rooms and homes to put them in. The type of room usually suggests the kind of furniture; the type of furniture suggests the wood; the wood suggests the fabric to be used. Oak and chestnut and the heavier walnut need the heavier-texture fabrics, such as hand-blocked linen, boldly patterned cretonnes, monk's cloth, and novelty weaves.

*Patterns.* The finer and more gracefully designed walnut and mahogany may use the finer woven linens, smaller and more gracefully patterned cretonnes, semiglazed chintzes and percales in the more formal patterns, and taffetas, moires, silk poplins and corduroys. Our beech, pine, and maple take the most informal types, such as calicoes, chintzes,





in small patterns, informal toile de Jouys, historical prints, Basque plaids, checks, and stripes. With each of these patterned fabrics there is some plain fabric which may be harmonious in texture and color and may therefore be used in the same room.

*Make to Fit.* Slip covers vary not only in the type of material used but also in the way they are made. There are the tight covers that fit over chairs and sofas which have no loose cushions; or they may merely cover the chairs, loose cushions and all. Then there is the slip with an extra cover for

- Slip covers on the larger pieces of furniture bring color and interesting variety into a room and the furniture wears longer

the cushion. These covers either snap onto the furniture or have the new mechanical construction (called the "zipper" finish) to close the opening.

Lately there is a tendency to upholster the furniture in the same fabrics used in the slip cover and also to use the flounces, cordings, and bindings found in the slip cover. This is often erroneously spoken of as the slip cover because it gives the same decora-

tive effect and is often somewhat more attractive, for the material fits perfectly, whereas in the real slip cover it must be left rather loose to take care of shrinkage.

*Tailored Covers.* Slip covers may be strictly tailored with no flounces or furbelows, depending on the type of room and owner. The flounces may be box pleated, side pleated, or full. There may be one or more flounces, and these flounces may be trimmed in many original and interesting ways.

The seams may be flat, bound, or corded. They may be trimmed with the self material or with a contrasting material or color. The flounce could be trimmed in a binding or facing of the same fabric as that used at the seam.

*Summer Covers.* Color and design, more than the type of material, should influence our difference in choice of the summer covers and the winter covers. For summer we want cool effects and gay colorings in our slip covers.



- The chair that is worn from constant use can have a colorful slip cover to lengthen its days



Gay colorings necessarily demand more informal designs. Here we may let our playful moods come to the fore and dare to do the unusual. At the same time it is wise to play safe; that is, to be sure that we are merely gay and not gaudy.

*For Winter.* In winter the same types of fabrics will be used. The colors may be a little more subdued, altho with modern heating, which keeps our rooms fairly even in temperature, it is not as necessary to create a feeling of warmth thru the use of warm colors as it was a few years ago. Designs, however, are slightly more formal.

There is also such a thing as period designs and modern designs which have period feeling. Whether your furniture is oak or mahogany you may find the design which is most suitable as well as the best colors and textures.

*Breakfast-Room.* As to the other rooms in the house, the breakfast-room will always be much more attractive if the chairs have pads of fabrics which match or harmonize with the curtains and overdraperies. These may be simply made or have saucy little ruffles or flounces. For the filling of these pads we suggest quilted table padding.

*Bedrooms.* Bedrooms offer

unusual opportunities: Boudoir chairs, chaise longues, flounces for beds and tester tops, and dressing-table skirts, with the accompanying chair or bench. It is very necessary to obtain balance between the designs used in the same room. It is possible to use more than one design in the same room if one is contrasting in scale and has the same or harmonizing coloring.

As for durability, no material will last forever but, with sturdy backgrounds and sunfast colors, slip covers should stand years of wear and tear.

*Care in Selection.* Among your rooms you may like to think of covers as you do of your wardrobe. In many they are analogous. Your winter living-room resembles very closely your most appropriate afternoon street-costume—practical, of excellent material, beautiful in line, correct in accessories—smartly adequate for meeting with anyone. You know that it has atmosphere.

Your bedroom might be compared to either your evening dress or your negligee (depending on its decorative type), and your breakfast room, your most becoming house dress. The resulting whole is a smart selection for practicality and charm for the home.



# For the Home with Small Children

**F**URNISHING and beautifying the home should always be a fascinating game to every woman, but some mothers feel, I know, that the game is one not to be undertaken by the household which boasts small children.

*Plan for Children.* But this is such an unwise point of view. To begin with, there is no reason why the presence of children in a home should necessarily mean destruction. Then the carefully planned background of a beautiful home makes a far deeper impression on children than seems possible at first thought.

Children, as well as grownups, are affected by environment. Bring them up in a run-down home, whether thru carelessness or because they are "too little to appreciate it," and they will be satisfied with run-down homes when they are older.

*Let Child Help.* Let the child plan her own room and you will find that she has more interest in keeping it neat.

Of course, she will require guidance in the planning, but here again is where the mother's

teaching will be of untold help.

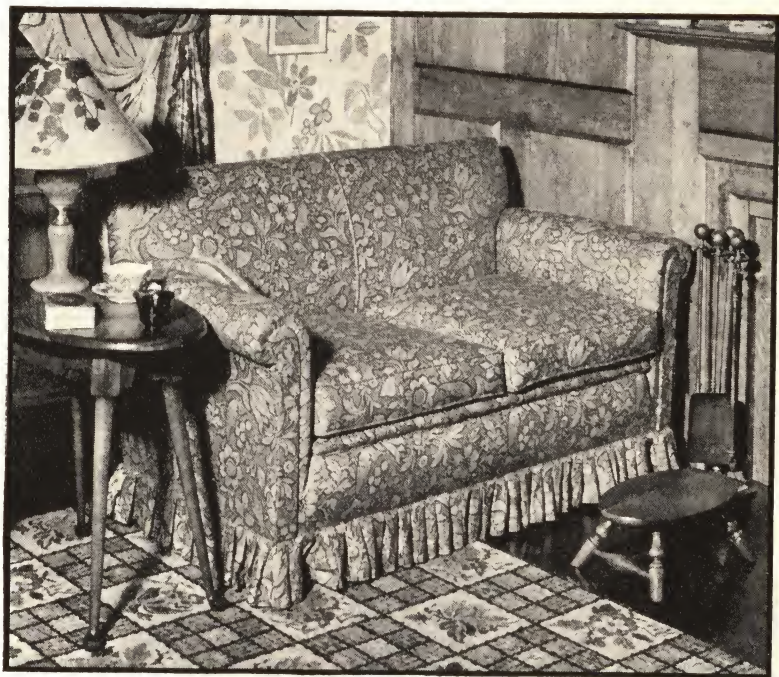
*Washable Walls.* Walls may be our first consideration, and their treatment must depend on your means. The painted or plain plaster walls may be hard to repair, but they are easy to clean.

The wall with a gay pattern chosen in an inexpensive paper may readily be repapered. Should you be able to put money into your wallpaper, buy a guaranteed, washable one; or cover a new, unwashable one with a coat of shellac while it is still new, and clean it with a damp cloth.

Washable or shellacked wall-papers are wise to choose for halls, stairs, and nurseries where little hands constantly reach out to be steadied.

*Up-to-Date Woodwork.* The difficulty we often encounter that makes for drabness in old houses may be attributed to the woodwork of a past period. Do not be afraid of painting your woodwork, for if you use the right materials and get the right finish a damp cloth will remove even the gummiest of little fingermarks.

*Floors for Children.* For floors,



which represent so much care to keep the beauty of their surface intact, carpets or rugs of generous size should be used, giving the necessary air of warmth and protecting the floor itself from scratches and hard use.

Dark-colored rugs are apt to show marks readily, so for the house where children play look for neutral coloring into which the footmark sinks unnoticed. Linoleum is a good choice, providing length of service, insulating value, and infinite variety of design.

*Upholstery.* Upholstery and

- Slip covers are never so useful as in the home where the children are small. The piece here is covered with material, slow to soil and can be cleaned easily

curtains are a problem, again, for the beauty-loving homemaker and one less easily solved, since children must use furniture and little feet will not touch the ground. But since slip covers are so often used today from choice, in homes where they have only the advantage of supplying gayety and informality, why not let them serve a more useful end?

*Furniture.* Never in the his-



tory of furniture has there been such a variety to choose from as we have today. The sturdiest of oak and walnut and the beauty of maple and mahogany, chestnut, and beech are all used in good furniture with true designs. Woods are being finished in manners to resist the wear and tear of children, so that shabby, ugly pieces should no longer be used in a home because of children.

*Child's Property.* If possible it is a good idea to have in the living-room a chair for every child. Perhaps it might be one se-

lected by him for his own use and the care which his own comfort will demand. This will teach him how upholstered furniture should be treated.

*Other Possessions.* Then there are other household accessories which have a more or less definite value in a child's rearing. There are the pretty washable bed-coverings, for example, which may be the work of mother or of some favorite aunt, and of which care must be taken.

A few well-chosen pictures with which the child becomes familiar, a tiny bookcase in which her favorite books rest, an ornament or two—all these things will play their part in the child's life, and their counterparts downstairs will have just that added interest.

Children, you will find, love to garden, and the potted plants of winter, given to their care, will hold additional charm for them and prove of much educational interest.



- Nothing pleases a child more than a chair of his own. Here is shown a grouping that has been planned especially for the use of children



# A Room That Grew Up With the Children

THIS is the story of a playroom which started as a nursery for three little children and grew up with them. Fundamentally the room remained the same thruout all the years. The changes made from time to time were dictated by the growing tastes and development of the children.

The room originally was added to the home when the children needed extra space. It is on the ground floor of the home, reached from the rear door by a cemented entrance hall in which wet galoshes can drip harmlessly. A toilet was planned to adjoin it.

*Separate Entrance.* Several stout doors have protected the rest of the home from the inevitable chatter of lively children, and these insured privacy for others in the home.

In the nursery days, a photograph of which we show, a blue-green and white linoleum was easily cleaned, and proof against the spilled cocoa, the leaky steam engine, or the roller-skating. The lower wall was blue-green burlap.

It was not only durable, but on it the children could pin their

kindergarten efforts, the pictures they wanted to save from magazines, or the appropriate holiday decorations of the season at hand.

*Washable Paint.* A low picture molding seemed to bring the room down to the level of small furniture, and the walls were of washable paint in a pale blue-green to tone with the woodwork. Against this, bright red picture frames and the gay colors of toys, flowerpots, cushions, and curtains found a becoming background.

*Gym Fixtures.* Into the two-by-fours of this nursery, before the ceiling was plastered, were screwed strong hooks for swing, trapeze, and hanging rings. Wire gymnasium fixtures protected the light globes from breakage, and low wall sockets provided a connection for the electric appliances.

One wall was covered with a large blackboard, and every nook and corner went into cupboards.

*Toy Store Place.* This is the secret of peace and order in any playroom, where you must have divisions for each child's treasures, or a system which groups the games here, the mechanical

toys there, and the building materials another place.

A clothes closet for everyday and playmates' wraps was an added convenience to the playroom. We had the strip on which the clothes hooks were fastened secured with pegs, like an adjustable book or closet shelf, so that it could be moved higher as the children's coats grew longer.

*Made for Needs.* A playroom must do just this to fulfill its purpose—always remain within reach of the needs, tastes, and comfort of its occupants. In our second illustration we show the room as it has grown up with the children. A hardwood floor, suitable for an occasional fox-trot, has now replaced the linoleum.

The woodwork is robin's-egg blue, the burlap wainscot painted over, and the upper wall has become gay with a modern plaid

wallpaper. Pictures and curtains reflect the more mature and sophisticated tastes of the high-school age; the gingham hangings have given way to linen gauze.

*Blackboard to Bookcase.* The blackboard space is now filled by a bookcase, in which the school and reference books are handy for home work; a broad counter shelf permits one to open a large dictionary or encyclopedia at a convenient height. The globe is its central feature, and an occasional shelf is given over to the trophies, keepsakes, collections, and ornaments that are temporarily of interest to the children.

*Lighting.* From the trapeze hooks a plant or a newly constructed model air-plane is now likely to hang. Lights and lamps are considered in terms of their efficiency in closework and are placed near the study table.



● Linoleum-covered floors, a blackboard, and ample space for toys made this room a delightful part of the home when the children were small





Comfortable chairs and pillows are on the window seat, a table with four matching straight chairs similar to a breakfast-room set, a phonograph, and plenty of gay, bright color make it an ideal living-room for the half-grown family.

Here they entertain their friends, do their schoolwork, amuse themselves on rainy days.

*Suit Child's Needs.* The mere building of such a room and decorating it can make for a peaceful adjustment of each individual child's needs and tastes, but the prime factor is the spirit of adaptability and consideration, which provides for young and old in the home.

The changes in it are matters of

- With the passing of nursery days, the room also grew up. The blackboard made room for a bookcase, hardwood floor replaced the linoleum and all decoration changed for the 'teen age

common interest and expression. No expensive fabrics or furniture are needed to make it attractive to the children. They love it because it is their own and will cherish the memory in after years.

*Next Change?* Before many years have elapsed the playroom is due for another change. It will undoubtedly have again a chance to prove the extent of its adaptability. Who knows, it may even serve as a den for father and mother to use while the young people, very much grown up, are entertaining in the living-room?



# The Basement to the Rescue

## *How to Turn Unused Space Into an Interesting Recreation Room*

EVERY home needs a recreation room which all the family can enjoy—a room which might be called a “second living-room”. For not always can the diverse interests of a family be carried on in the common living-room.

*The Recreation Room.* The real solution to the problem lies in a basement recreation room. Several of my friends have them, and how enthusiastic they are about them! Even a very congenial couple without children believes that never again will they have a house without a recreation room.

The upstairs living-room contains her grand piano plus the usual furniture. The recreation room is largely the property of her husband. There in one corner is his desk, his typewriter, and his favorite books. There is the radio and the phonograph, and plenty of a comfortable, sturdy type of furniture.

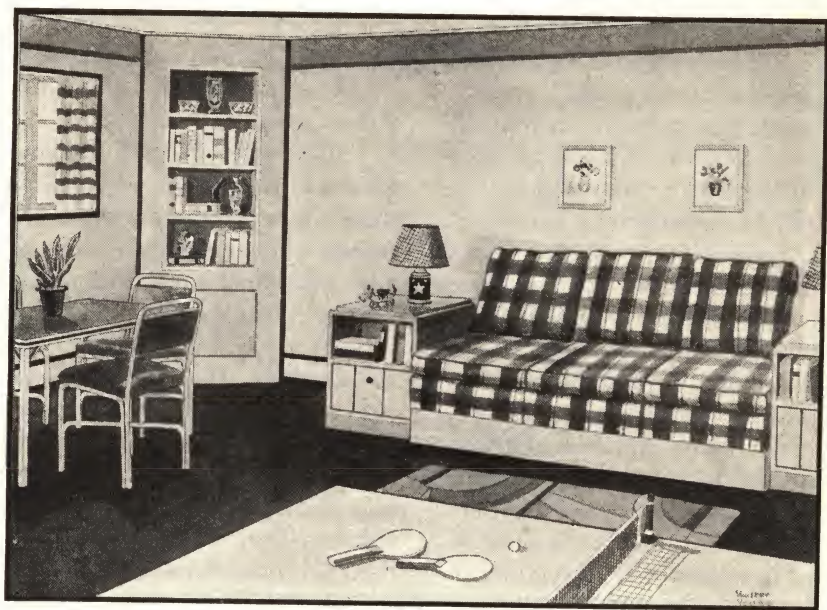
*Kitchen Unit.* Another family with a son of 15 and two daughters have a little different arrangement. Comfortable furniture? Yes. Plenty of books and magazines?

Yes. The radio and phonograph? Yes. But also in one corner a cupboard for all sorts of handwork materials and games.

In still another corner is a compact little kitchenette, with a small sink, a cupboard, a refrigerator, and a two-burner electric plate—a replica of the cooking facilities of the small, modern city apartment. And what fun it is to make fudge or popcorn there on a rainy, fall day, to concoct cold drinks on a hot summer day, and to make cheese dreams on a Sunday evening in winter.

*Making Space.* How can you have one for yourself? First, see if your furnace is set in a large room like an oasis in a desert, or if your fruit and vegetable storage space is large enough to be suitable for a recreation room. You can probably inclose the furnace in a fraction of the space allotted to it and of the rest make either your recreation room or a storage room.

*Walls.* Walls may be easily and satisfactorily made by the use of one of the many varieties of fiber or wallboard, or the foundation walls freshened by



a coat or two of cement paint.

Floors, if the young people want to dance frequently, can be constructed of hardwood. Otherwise, one of the new inlaid-linoleum patterns can be cemented directly to a good, dry basement floor or to rough flooring laid over the cement.

*Basement Rug.* If a rug is desired let it be a sturdy one. Perhaps the type which best combines durability and attractiveness is one made of linen, which has a rough tweedlike surface.

The maker of a well-known line of rustic porch or garden furniture is now offering very smart up-

- The basement recreation room offers a good opportunity to go a little modern in furnishings. A studio couch, covered in smart new material, and flanked with broad-topped practical tables at each end serves a double purpose—comfort by day and an emergency bed at night for the unexpected guest

holstered furniture made of young hickory saplings, trimmed in French cane, and upholstered in modern fabrics as well as colorful cretonnes.

*Furniture.* Perhaps instead of a davenport or settee you will want to use one of the new studio couches with box springs, set on legs, and an inner spring mattress. With a tailored cover of



heavy material, three large tailored pillows ranged along the wall at the back, and a set of modern bookshelves at each end, you will have a comfortable lounging place which may be converted into a bed in an emergency.

A manufacturer who for years has manufactured popular game boards has recently turned his attention to folding furniture. A folding-deck tennis table could be used for other purposes as well.

Sturdy wooden tables of generous size, with steel legs that can be easily and quickly folded, are very satisfactory. They may be had in widths of 2 feet 6 inches or

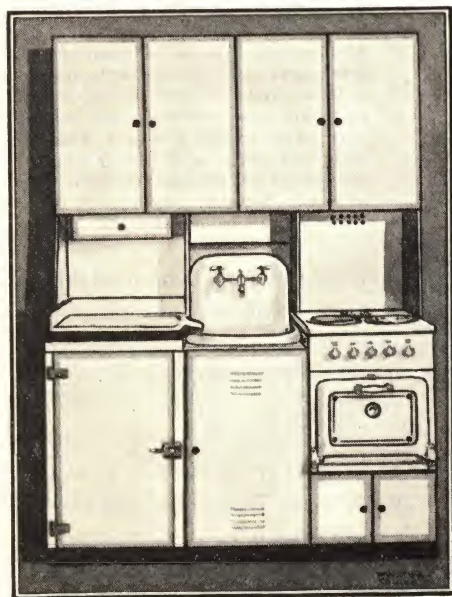
3 feet and in lengths of 6 or 8 feet. Round tables 5-, 6-, or 7-feet in diameter fit conveniently into some rooms.

*A Complete Kitchen.* If you want a kitchenette in one corner, there are new combination units, consisting of stove, sink, refrigerator, and small cupboard, which can be installed in a space a little over 5 feet long.

*Lighting.* If you wish good lighting nothing could be more satisfactory, if your ceilings are light in tone, than the new portable lamps, furnishing indirect lighting. They are topped with an inverted bowl with a gleaming metal lining and equipped with a 300-watt light.

These may be had at a moderate price with a simple lacquer surface and at a little higher price in modern or period designs. If direct lighting is used 80 to 100 watt bulbs will give sufficient light for games.

*Pictures and Knicknacks.* Since the recreation room is a very utilitarian room it is probable that you will want few knicknacks, and perhaps few pictures.



- A cookery, refrigeration, and dish-storage unit such as this is a great convenience in your recreation room in the basement



# The Room in the Attic

*You Can Convert It Inexpensively into a Bedroom, Playroom, Study, or Game Room*

UNDER many a roof there is an attic, not used at all or only for storage, which might with a little effort be transformed into one of the most delightful rooms in the home.

Slanting ceilings, dormer windows, and unusual alcoves and corners have a quaint beauty which readily appears when they are used as the background for simple furnishings.

*All-the-Year Room.* The unfinished attic may seem to be a considerable problem, but, actually, when the house is uninsulated it is simpler to turn into a comfortable all-the-year-round room than would be the case were ceiling and walls complete.

Tests have proved that insulation of a house will save as much as 40 percent of the heat ordinarily lost, and as more than one-half of this escapes thru the roof, insulating the attic is one of the most effective ways to make the whole home comfortable.

*The Playroom.* For the growing children of the house the attic provides a playroom where they may keep toys, books, collections

of stamps and insects, and other treasures.

The child who owns such a treasure mountain peak will be perfectly happy even if a few decorative details are missing. We know of two little girls whose attic playroom is the envy of the neighborhood; their father covered ceiling and walls with insulating wallboard and built shelves and cupboards for books and toys under the low eaves.

There are two little desks where they do their homework, places to keep dolls and skates and all other details which do not fit quite comfortably into the grown person's world, and plenty of free floor space for games. As one may imagine, there is no rainy-day problem in that house.

When the children are older the decoration is to be completed and the playroom will become a most charming bedroom for them.

*The Study.* Its isolated position, away from the noises of house and street, makes the attic ideal for a study or library. The wall space under the low ceilings is peculiarly adapted to built-in



● A gay attic room in which simple maple furniture of diminutive size has been used

shelves for the books that will be the chief note in decoration.

Pine paneling, with its cheerful, quiet color, might be used for the free wall space, and if the same wood is carried on to make built-in shelves, an exceptionally attractive room will be the result.

*The Game Room.* Our new fondness for home amusements has made a game room for the house not a luxury but a necessity.

If the attic is fairly large a little effort will transform it so that the young people may entertain their friends there at backgammon,

bridge, or more strenuous amusements, such as ping-pong or indoor golf, without disarranging the living-room or driving their elders from home.

Many a hostess, too, has found it a great convenience to have a room uncrowded with ordinary furniture where half a dozen tables of bridge may be set out with comfort.

*Decoration.* For use as this very simple decoration is sufficient. Bright curtains at the windows, well placed and shaded lights, one or two gay hangings on





the walls if they are plain—such details as these make a delightful setting.

If there is rough flooring it may be covered with carpet or linoleum laid on an insulating base so as to reduce noise which might be disturbing in other parts of the house.

Very little more furniture than card tables and chairs is needed in such a room, and it will solve many a problem in a household where two generations entertain at different times.

*An Extra Bedroom.* In most houses, however, the attic is needed to accommodate guests or for an extra bedroom for the girl

- With the maple furniture, a flowered sprigged wallpaper in red and green has been used, and on the bed is a red-and-white quilt, a reproduction of an old woven coverlet, a rare treasure today

or boy of the family who needs a room of his or her own.

In either case it has many charming possibilities, and if a small corner of space can be spared for the installation of an extra bathroom as well, it will be a worthwhile addition to the comfort and value of the house.

*Planning Bedroom.* If you are fortunate enough to have a fairly good floor to work with, it may be made most attractive by painting it in some dark color and



using two or three bright scatter rugs at strategic points.

If, as is more often the case, the floor is rough and full of splinters, a warm tone, unpatterned carpet laid to the walls will conceal all defects and give the room a feeling of quiet comfort.

*Floor.* Linoleum is an excellent covering for such a floor. The jaspes, with their use of varying shades of the same color, make an interesting bedroom floor, but if wallpaper of definite pattern is to be used a perfectly plain floor will be a better choice, perhaps relieved by widely spaced inlaid strips in a contrasting tone.

Linoleum floors make effective backgrounds for small rugs, and if waxed when laid they are easily cared for and will keep their appearance indefinitely.

*Wall Coverings.* A patterned paper with a small figure in clear, gay tones is excellent for bringing out the charm of low ceilings and walls with unusual corners.

A demure sprigged paper in Colonial style might be used, or variations on the type, such as a new design which has a small leaf fluttering at wide intervals down a diagonal lattice. If the room is fairly large a delicate *toile de jouy* pastoral pattern may give just the right touch of gay informality.

For the ceiling paper a lighter

shade than that used on the walls should be chosen, and it should be either unpatterned or have only a very inconspicuous figure.

*Furnishings.* In a very small attic room the greatest care must be taken to choose furnishings of the right size for the space they are to occupy. The window recess may offer an opportunity to save space; if it is long and narrow a set of drawers may be built in, or in front of a wide window there may be a place for a comfortable window seat with a chest beneath for bedding or clothes.

The type of radiation which hides the heating unit behind a grille in the wall will often give considerable extra wall space.

*Make Room Informal.* The attic is essentially an informal place and lends itself to unpretentious furnishings, original arrangement, and unusual color treatments, but, whatever you do, avoid making the attic room a catch-all for various ill-assorted pieces of furniture discarded from the rest of the house.

Choose the bed for its position in the room, avoiding, for example, a high four-poster if the head is to be placed under a slanting ceiling. A long room with a low ceiling extending along one side may offer space for twin beds with a small table between them.

# Bedrooms

- *Comfort and Attractiveness Combine to Make the Ideal Bedroom in the Home*

**B**EDROOMS are coming more and more to be "second living-rooms" for they offer privacy of which members of the family stand in need when it comes to rest, work, or study. Therefore, in planning decoration and furnishings, the first thing to consider is, "Will it be comfortable?"

*Ideal Bedroom.* The ideal bedroom is one that combines attractiveness and comfort. You can be assured of its comfort if a bedroom contains a delightful bed, plenty of light and air, a choice of pillows, a perfect dressing-table, a good light to read by in bed, heat in cold weather, cross



- At moderate cost a chintz covered chaise longue can be added to a bedroom not only giving comfort but also a luxurious appearance





- The finishing touch to a bedroom's comfort is a bedside table that has the practical advantage of a radio in it. Radios are being installed in bed tables of all styles of period furniture today

ventilation in hot weather, a sofa to rest on, and a well-lighted closet.

*Location of Bed.* An important item in furnishing a bedroom is the placing of the bed. The right place is where its occupant wishes, which will depend on the location of the windows.

Clothes containers are necessary in the average room, particularly if closet space is limited.

*Furniture.* The furniture may be strictly bedroom in character

or may not. In the simplest sort of cottage, it is appropriate. If it is necessary to include the entire bedroom furniture list, the different items should be varied. That is, choose the furniture separately and then paint to agree but not to match.

Where there are not many pieces of furniture in a bedroom—either large or small—a bed, chest, table, and two chairs that are alike, look very well. But even so, interest can be increased by variety in the furniture.

*Wood Combinations.* There is no excuse for monotony if the furniture be of unpainted wood, since pieces that are in accord





without being replicas are easy to obtain. Maple and birch, walnut and dark oak, rosewood and mahogany, even painted pieces and wood pieces—all combine suitably, if attention is given to texture and to scale.

*Use of Color.* Color will do most to make a bedroom attractive. (See "Color" chapter for color schemes.) Ruffled glass curtains with adjustable hems can be bought all ready to put up, and colorful chintz, plain or patterned, will add warmth to the bedroom's appearance.

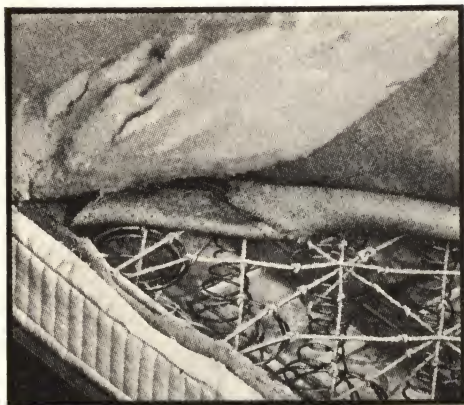
*Floor-Covering.* In some rooms, scatter rugs are sufficient for the floor-covering, but a large

- Why not give your bedroom a decidedly new twentieth century appearance when you can have all this in beautifully styled metal furniture with comfortable springs and mattresses

rug or all-over carpeting improves the appearance and comfort and gives an illusion of more space.

*Linens—Blankets.* When buying your linens and blankets, it is important that they be chosen in colors to harmonize with the rest of the furnishings in the room. There is a wide choice of colors for blankets and, of course, white linens are always correct.

For dressing-table suggestions see page 56, and before you buy your springs and mattresses read pages 84 and 85.

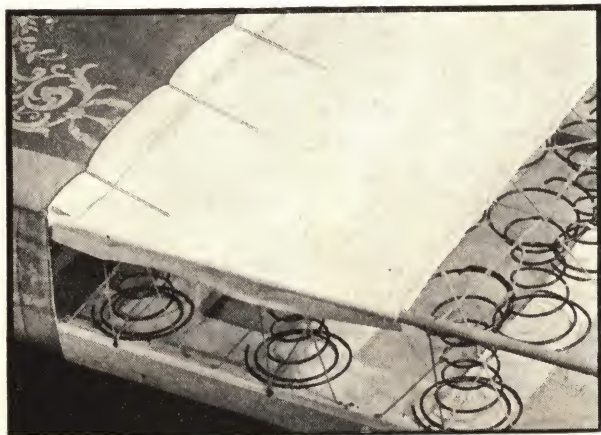
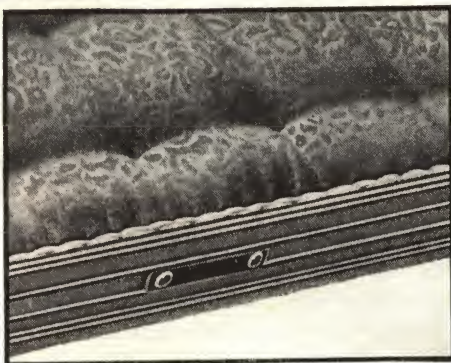


# Rest Well

*Hidden Workmanship  
Springs Gives Perfect*

- At the left is shown an interior view of a well-constructed box spring. Upon the workmanship depends much of the comfort and durability of your springs

- A strongly corded wall with strap handles for turning is one of the indications of a well-made mattress. To give good service any mattress should be turned occasionally, endwise and sidewise

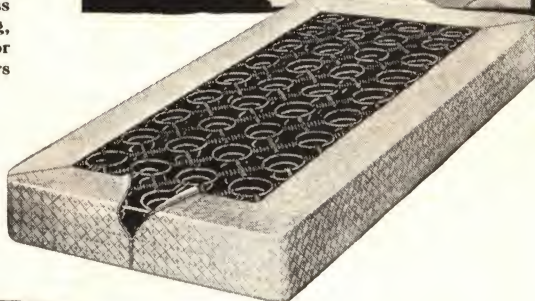
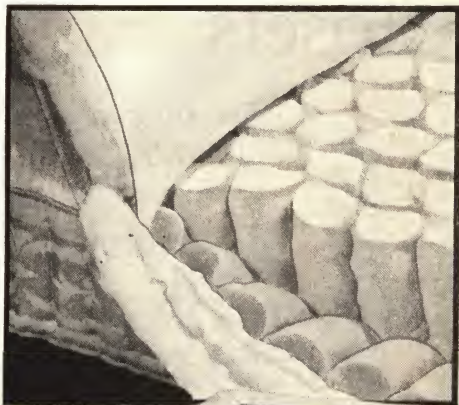


- Left: Every detail of a box spring should be planned for wear. A good inner-spring mattress on a poor box spring will not last or give its user the full amount of comfort it should



*. . . Quality in the  
of Mattresses and  
Comfort*

- The best mattress luxury is built from the inside out. It is wise to consider the quality of the covering for they come in many grades, the cheapest so flimsy that it is soon worthless. To give good service, a mattress must have a stout covering, a cloth that will not tear or rip. They come in colors

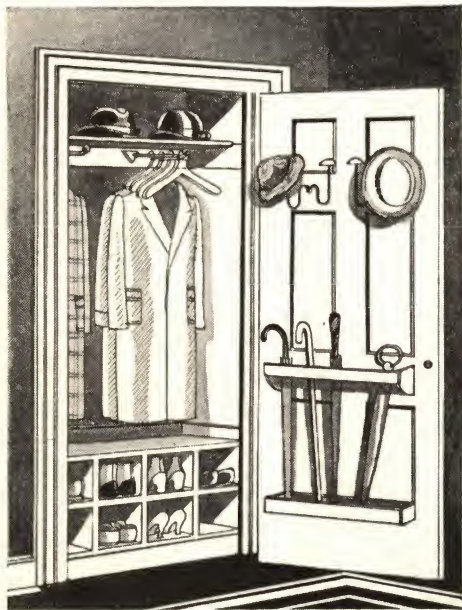
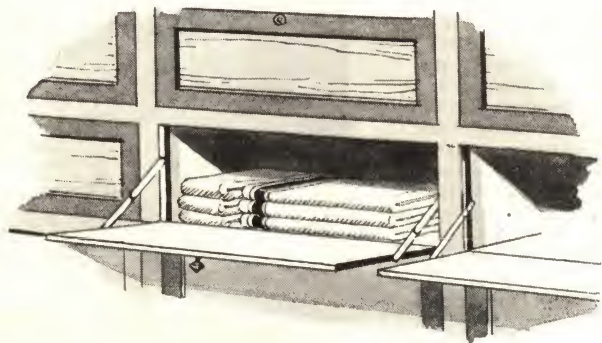


- The latest development in mattresses is the inner-spring construction. It lasts longer and has proved to be more restful, with the added advantage of not sagging as quickly as some others



# Closets

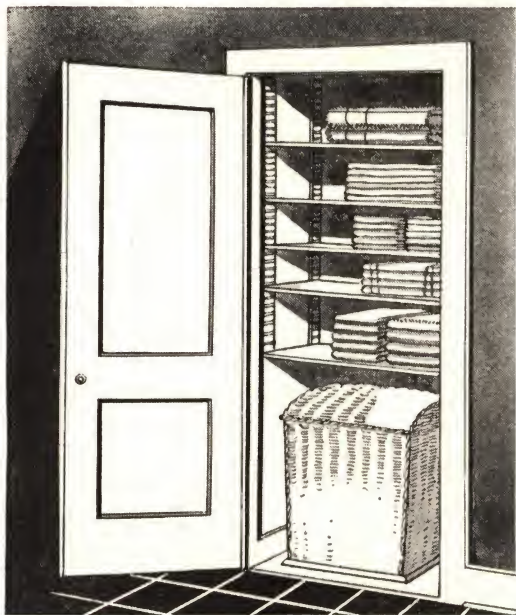
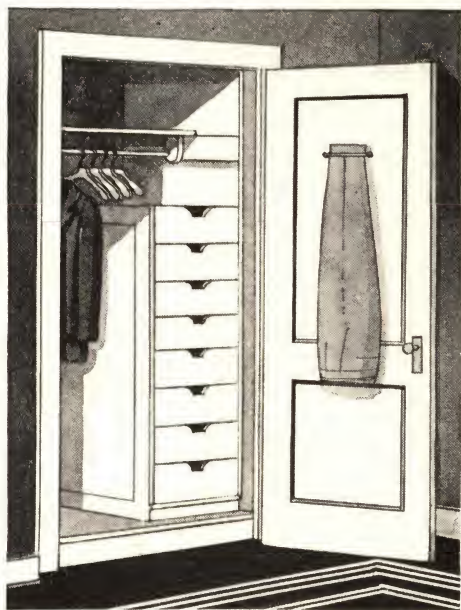
- *Smooth-running, Pleasant Homes Are Those Which Have a Place for Everything*



- When a small room is given over entirely to a linen closet there should be inside doors in the nature of drop leaves which are hinged to shelves. In this way, when open, they will serve as counters upon which the linen may be placed. They will also keep your linens from becoming wrinkled.

- When it is properly fitted the coat closet can conveniently and comfortably hold the outdoors wear of the average family. Note the shelves for hats and shoes and the handy rack for umbrellas and sticks. Good lighting is absolutely necessary if you are to have comfortable and convenient closets in your home

- A bedroom closet becomes a complete wardrobe when fitted with a cabinet of trays and clothes-hanging equipment. This arrangement is especially suitable for a boy's or man's room. The rod with the clothes hangers suspended from it is a tremendous advance over the hook or peg. However, it is still a desirable device to use in many cases



- At the left is shown a linen cupboard with the clothes hamper below the shelves. The shelves are supported at each end by two adjustable metal shelf hangers which can fit into the average closet. Shelves may be omitted from the floor to a height in which a clothes hamper will fit

# Linen List for the Home

**COUNT** six sheets to a bed (108-inch length is preferable, with 81-inch width for a double bed, and 63-inch width for a twin bed).

*Pillow Cases.* Three pillow cases to a pillow (standard widths are 42- and 45-inch, in either 36- or 38½-inch lengths, measured before folding and sewing.)

*Blankets.* Have a mattress pad, 2 blankets of different weights, and 1 comforter or quilt for each bed. In bedspreads, if your choice is washable, have 2 for each bed. Count 2 covers for each dresser.

*Towels.* Count 6 bath towels to a person, 6 hand towels each, and 4 wash cloths each; have 6 hand towels as guest towels, 12 finger towels, 2 bath mats for each bathroom.

*Kitchen Linen.* For the kitchen, have 12 dish towels, 6 glass towels, 6 cloths for rough work, 6 pan holders, and 12 hand towels for 2 persons in the family.

*Table Linen.* One hand-hemmed linen damask set (cloth 1½ yards square, with 6 22-inch napkins) for small dinners. A hem-stitched cloth or a colored cloth—

this with napkins to match—is an interesting addition.

Measure your table, and figure on an 18-inch overhang all around for the very formal dinner, a 14-inch drop for luncheons or informal dinners.

*Monograms.* Use monogram sizes in proportion to the size of the articles: 4- to 6-inch for table cloths and sheets, 2- to 3-inch for table napkins, 1½- to 2-inch for luncheon napkins and doilies, 3- to 4-inch on covers for serving table, buffet, and tray doilies.

Bath towels take a 3- to 4½-inch monogram, 2½- to 3-inch for large linen towels, 1½- to 2-inch for guest towels, wash cloths from 1½- to 2-inch, and 7- to 10-inch for spreads or quilts and bath mats.

Monograms are used more on towels or bed linen than on the table, but, if for a tablecloth up to 2 yards square, place it 4 or 5 inches from the corner of the table.

*Napkins.* Mark the napkin in one corner about 2½-inches from the edge; or in the center of the side of the napkin, depending upon the material's pattern.



# The Bathroom

• *Here Are Suggestions for Making It More Convenient and Colorful*

A BATHROOM may be as colorful as an old-fashioned flower garden and still be both practical and in perfect harmony with itself and its surroundings. Taste and ingeniousness have been known to work wonders.

Bathrooms have become so thoroly styled that almost a complete line of accessories may be had in any of the used materials—chromium or nickel plate, porcelain, glass, and enamel.

*Medicine Cabinet.* Is the medicine cabinet large enough to hold the supplies that need to be kept on hand? A first-aid kit, which can be attached to an unused portion of the wall, might relieve the congestion, especially if there are children.

Modern glass bottles, wide-mouth jars and containers, either in a solid color or decorated, are so exquisite that a set of them on an extra shelf would add a brilliant decorative note, aside from being very convenient.

*Towel Holders.* Towels are less likely to slip off the square bars than the round ones. There

cannot be too many towel bars. One above the bathtub for bath towels might be useful, especially if your memory is none too good. Some shelves come with a towel bar underneath.

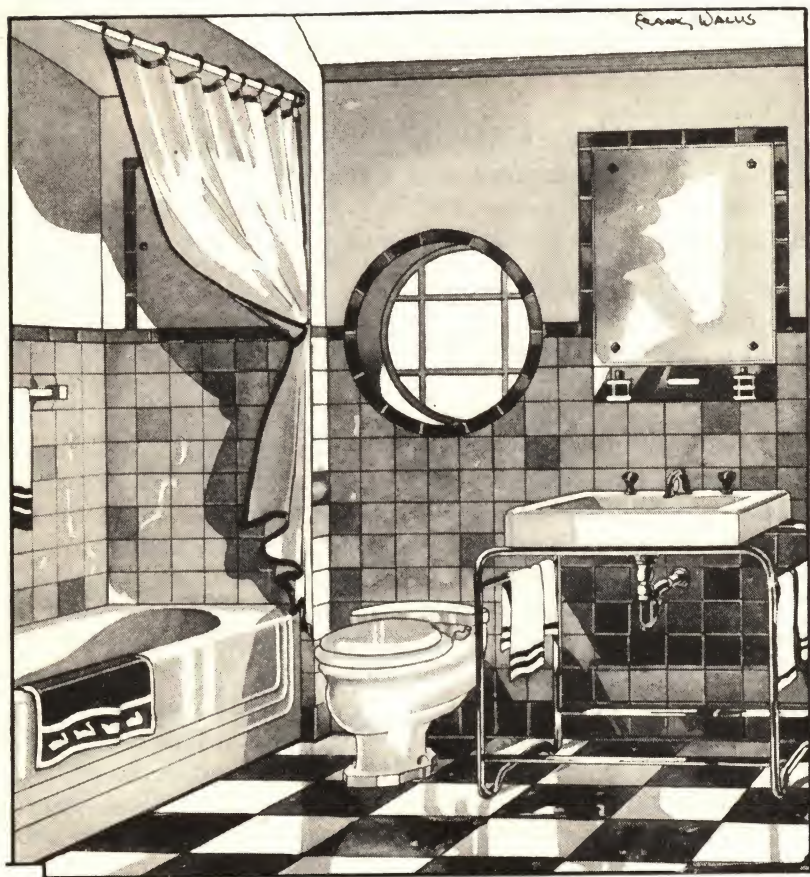
A shelf or rack for fresh towels would be handy. A rack might be attached to the wall over the radiator if you like your bath towel warm.

Double hooks for clothes are space-savers. The inside of the door is usually the logical place for them. Be sure there is also a strop hook convenient for shaving, for the man in the family.

*Wall Holders.* There are usually so many uses for the shelf under the medicine cabinet that either single or combination wall-holders for tumblers, toothbrushes, tooth paste, and soap are very convenient.

One combination holds a glass, soap, and several toothbrushes. Another has places for a glass, tooth paste, and toothbrushes.

The grab bar over the tub seems more important after you have slipped. There are also non-



slip rubber mats that anchor to the bottom of the tub.

*Heater.* A tiny electric heater or reflector that can be turned on and off at will might add to your comfort after a cold shower.

You will not, of course, forget a hamper for soiled towels and a waste basket. The solid or woven fiber and enameled metal ones are

- Easy-to-clean walls and floors are the first requirements for a bathroom. The modern bathroom shown here fairly sparkles in its cleanliness. Note the modern lavatory with the handy racks

practical and attractive. There are also tall oval or three-corner hampers.

*Mirrors.* A triple wall mirror with a shelf underneath and a



good light over it may serve as a dressing table if there is not room for one of the small bathroom vanities. Some mirrors come with a shelf already attached. This combination can be arranged at a convenient height to permit the use of a small chair or stool.

*Floor Covering.* Inlaid linoleum makes a very satisfactory floor covering. The color goes clear thru the material, as you will see by looking at the end, and so cannot be walked off. It is desirable to have it lined with felt and glued to the floor. The marbleized designs are both practical and effective.

There are many kinds of scatter rugs suitable for bathrooms. Hooked rugs, either hand or machine made, are lovely. So, too, are the various types of rag rugs and the deep-pile cotton chenille.

*Walls.* Whether or not the lower part of the walls are covered with tile, some portion is sure to need decorating. There is, also, imitation tiling that can be attached to the wall. We need no longer confine waterproof enamel paint to white or cream. A delicate semi-neutral color does, tho, make a good background.

*Ceiling.* It should usually be lighter than the walls. Some charming decorative effects are being obtained with wallpaper.

There are also interesting all-over designs.

The star papers are charming, especially if you like the outdoor suggestion. There are delicate shades of yellow, green, and peach with gold stars. An interesting waterlily paper in a soft shade of light green and orchid or gray-blue and rose goes well with plain fabrics for the window. Most of the papers are glazed or waterproofed.

*Shower Curtain.* The window drapery and shower-curtain ensemble is one of the newest. There is a great variety of rubberized fabrics, either plain or figured. One may have a silk moire or taffeta ensemble or one of cotton in a solid color or chintz pattern. Rayon is also popular.

Shower curtains may be had ready to hang or the material purchased by the yard. An extra shower curtain could be split and used for window draperies.

Glazed chintz in an attractive pattern is also good for window draperies or roller shade. The shower curtain might be in a solid-color rubberized fabric, picking up one of the shades in the chintz.

*Ensembles.* No where has the ensemble idea taken a firmer hold than in towels, bath mats, and wash cloths. Seat covers





matching the bath mat or rug are both useful and decorative. There is a wide choice of colors and designs that ought to fit comfortably into any style of decoration.

The color scheme may be carried to the point of getting a new seat cover in a mother-of-pearl finish and colored faucets for the lavatory and tub.

*Adjoining Rooms.* There are no end of delightful color combi-

- Washable paper covers the walls of this bathroom. If you are installing a new tub, be sure to have it with the convenient shelf. A full-length mirror in the door brings this room up-to-date

nations that may be used in the bathroom, providing they do not clash with the adjoining room. They may be more restrained than an old-fashioned flower garden, but they need be no less charming.

# Housecleaning

• *Today's Homemaker Can Make Her Work Easy and Delightful*

IT IS a wise homemaker who can run her home without fuss or bother, who can cope with the little, unexpected problems that pop up every day, and still maintain a smooth-running home. She is a good "manager."

Housecleaning ceases to be dull drudgery for the woman who makes a simple schedule for regular daily cleaning. Inspired by up-to-date cleaning equipment and materials, she finds housecleaning comparatively easy.

*Plan Work.* Your schedule should be a simple work plan covering all housework and care of the house. Its chief value is that it eliminates haphazard practices that steal so much of the homemaker's time; and it will remind you what to do next.

*Allow for Upsets.* List the things you wish to do daily, when you prefer to do them, and the time you feel you need for each. Make allowances for those times when you wish to make some extra preparations for lunch or dinner or when you think it more important to set in order the rest

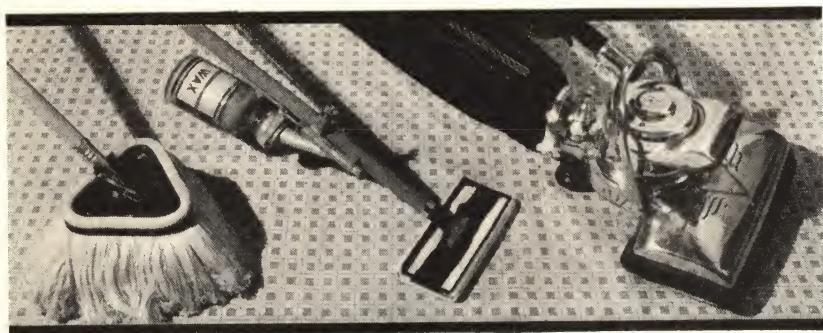
of the house before cleaning the kitchen.

You should also schedule for each day some of the work that you do only once or twice a week, such as the thoro vacuuming of carpets and rugs. Then, with pencil and pad in hand, you can survey the day before you, and if unexpected things turn up to be done, desirable changes can be made in your plans without upsetting the home.

*Where to Start.* In the average home, after the kitchen is cleared, it is best to start in the dining-room, then go to the living-room. First, collect your cleaning equipment, and if you are particular about your hands wear gloves.

Cleaning of the living-room and dining-room daily is largely a routine matter. Care for your plants and cut flowers. Empty ash trays and wastebasket. Brush up loose dust on open window ledges, radiators, etc. (Stair and radiator brushes are handy for this work.) If you have a fireplace, lay a fire. Run the carpet sweeper or vacuum cleaner over the rug





- Here are shown a dust mop, wax applicator, and a vacuum cleaner, a trio that makes the care of your floors delightful and interesting

or carpet and bare floor.

*To Save Time.* Go to the other rooms while you have the sweeper or cleaner in hand and do the floors that need it that day. You'll save much time. Then, if necessary, you should follow with the dry dust mop or suitable cleaner attachment on the bare floors. Dust the furniture.

Dusting is usually done before vacuum cleaning and after carpet sweeping.

*Bedrooms.* For help in keeping bedrooms in order, encourage your family to leave the beds open when they arise, also to keep their clothes picked up. You need co-operation in caring for a home, the bathroom particularly.

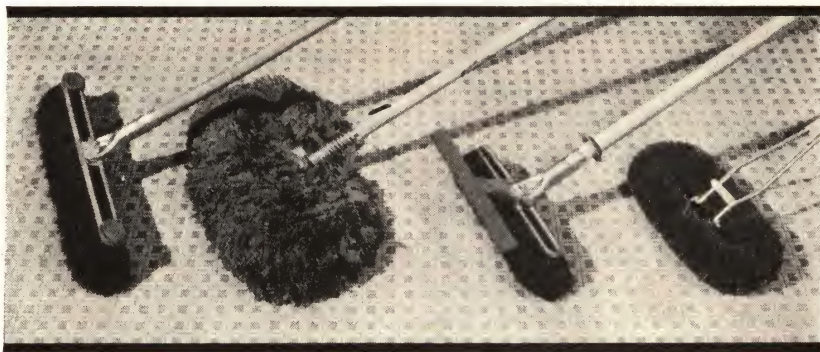
*Bathroom.* Train your family to leave the bathroom as orderly and clean as possible, then all you

will have to do is to replenish towels and other supplies daily and spend a few moments cleaning the tub and shining the faucets. Wash walls, floors, and clean toilet when necessary. Since the bathroom should always be clean, it needs daily attention.

*Floors—Coverings.* Floors, carpets, and rugs should be cleaned as often as necessary. In the daily care, if your floors look dusty, dust them with a dry dust mop or with a sweeper, vacuum cleaner, or proper attachment. For grayish-appearing waxed floors, take time set aside for weekly work to apply a little liquid wax. Polish the floor when it dries. (See "Floors," pages 16-26).

Loose dirt should be removed from rugs or carpets in the daily care of any room. A thoro cleaning once a week with the vacuum cleaner should be sufficient if the traffic is not heavy. If the room is used very much, it should be





thoroly cleaned at least twice a week.

*Furniture.* Furniture should be dusted daily with a dustless duster of cloth or paper. Use some of the time set aside for weekly cleaning to go over all upholstery with a suitable vacuum cleaner attachment. If the upholstery is cleaned regularly every week, a "shampoo" once a year will keep the washable fabrics in condition.

*Mattresses.* Mattresses should be turned once a week. Linen can be changed the same day.

*Dusting.* If they need it, part or all the period for weekly cleaning one day can be devoted to dusting your books and shelves. Baseboards usually need dusting once a week. Walls and the backs of pictures may need to be dusted once or twice a month. Washable walls will probably have to be

- In cleaning your walls, windows, and floors you'll find a push broom, floor mop, window cleaner and drier, and wall brush convenient

washed once or twice a year.

*Cleaning Tools.* There are various attachments for your vacuum cleaner which are excellent for dusting your books, pictures, awkward places back of heavy furniture, and heavy draperies.

*Closets.* Of course clothes and linen closets should be cleaned as often as necessary which depends upon their location.

*Special cleaning.* One homemaker I know checks her house once a month and makes a note of all special cleaning necessary. This includes walls needing washing, rewaxing floors, spots and stains on furniture and walls, washing glass curtains, and the polishing of brass or other metal fixtures or articles. Then she works these special tasks into her

daily care of the home thruout the month.

*Linoleum.* Good linoleum now comes from the factory with a protective finish, but an additional coat of wax or water-emulsion finish is a valuable added protection. Of course, linoleum so finished does not need scrubbing or even a vigorous mopping, just wiping up with one of the self-wringing mops wrung out of mild soapsuds, or clear, warm water.

*Brushes.* For scrubbing porches or basement floors, brushes with the long detachable handles will lighten the labor.

For a thoro cleaning of woodwork a solution of mild soap should be enough. Wash a small area, then rinse and dry it. If a greasy film has been deposited from the heating system or kitchen fumes, a mild scouring powder may be used, rinsing off thoroly and wiping dry, of course.

*Wall Cleaning.* Walls, whether painted or papered, should receive regular as well as seasonal attention. A wall brush of bristles or of yarn, with a long handle, should be used, working up so the dust falls into the brush.

The attachments to your vacuum cleaner are also useful in dusting the walls. Painted walls or washable wallpaper may be washed like woodwork, washing

and drying a small area at a time.

Wallpaper can be cleaned by rubbing it with large squares of cheese cloth, using a fresh square as often as the cloth shows soil.

*Windows.* Windows may be cleaned with an emulsion made for the purpose, spread on, allowed to dry, and rubbed off with a clean, dry cloth; with a scouring powder moistened and applied in a similar manner, or with soapsuds wiped with a dryer.

*Rugs.* Rugs which have been regularly freed from dust and grit by the use of a vacuum can be washed at home.

A mild soap jelly (1 cupful of soap flakes, or chipped soap, to 2 quarts of water) is beaten to a stiff suds, applied with a scrubbing brush to a small area of the rug, then thoroly and quickly rinsed away by sponging.

*Fabric Cleaning.* Unglazed chintz and many other fabrics used in draperies can be washed in your washing machine. Try a sample first. Of course, you will use mild, lukewarm suds, and rinse the draperies thoroly.

*Upholstered Furniture.* Regular care of your upholstered furniture should include frequent dusting with your vacuum-cleaner attachments, with one of the small vacuum cleaners made for the purpose, or an upholstery brush.







*Old-Fashioned Charm—Modern Efficiency*

# Your Kitchen and Its Equipment

IN FURNISHING and equipping either a large or a small kitchen there are 10 simple rules which if followed will give the most convenient arrangement:

(1) Put the cupboard for dining-room dishes and the sink as close to the dining-room as you can to save steps in setting the table and washing dishes.

(2) Have a place to stack the dishes, either a drainboard or a working surface adjoining the sink at the right.

(3) Have a drainboard at the left of the sink and above it or at its left the dish closet. With this arrangement, dishwashing may proceed from right to left or counter-clockwise.

(4) Keep the paths between the sink, working surface, and stove short and arrange these three pieces from left to right.

(5) Put the stove near the dish closet and dining-room in order to save steps in serving.

(6) Place the refrigerator near the sink and near a working surface; and be sure to get a refrigerator adequate to your needs.

(7) Select a floor covering that is durable, easy to clean, and comfortable to walk on. After a great many years of testing, inlaid linoleum has proven to be the satisfactory floor covering.

(8) Choose the large pieces of equipment to fit the wall and floor space they will occupy. In making our plans it is helpful to work out the minimum amount of storage space, working surface and cooking space required for an average family. Then decide on the size and kind of equipment needed.

*Equipment.* The following list of equipment and the approximate sizes of each may be of help to you:

- a. A refrigerator of at least 6 cubic feet capacity.
- b. A range with an 18-inch insulated oven.
- c. A 30-inch sink with an 18-inch drainboard on the left, and a 2-foot drainboard, table, or counter on the right.
- d. At least 20 square feet of working surface.
- e. One storage cupboard for





- staples, consisting of 3 shelves, 12 x 36 inches.
- f. A dish cupboard 12 x 48 inches, consisting of 3 shelves.
- g. One storage cupboard of 2 shelves for pots and pans.
- h. Ample drawer space for silver, linen, towels, and aprons under the cupboard.
- i. A portable or built-in cabinet with shelves, drawers, and bins.

*Arranging Equipment.* In arranging the equipment, keep in mind that the articles which are used together should be placed

● This is truly a Twentieth Century kitchen with its monel metal sink and spacious working surfaces, electrical equipment, attractive floor-covering

near each other for convenience.

(9) Have the working surfaces the proper height for the kitchen worker. The height of working surfaces is an individual problem. Each homemaker should test the different jobs and definitely determine the proper height for the sink, and working surfaces.

*Toe Room.* The fatigue connected with many kitchen proc-



esses is greatly reduced if toe room is allowed at the base of all equipment where the worker must stand.

(10) Make the kitchen livable and interesting. This may be accomplished by introducing color in the curtains, the finish of the walls and woodwork, the linoleum, and the tools and equipment.

### Arrangement of Utensils and Staples

*At Work-Table or Kitchen*

*Cabinet:* 2 measuring cups (dry or liquid); nest of mixing bowls; 1 can opener; 1 lemon squeezer; 1 grater; 1 pastry blender; 1 biscuit cutter; 1 flour sifter; 1 pair scissors; 2 egg beaters (wire and rotary); 1 pastry brush.

*Knives:* 1 paring knife; 1 slicing knife; 1 case knife; 1 bread knife; 1 spatula; 1 broad spatula.

*Forks:* 1 medium-size 2-tined fork (4-inch); 1 large 2-tined fork (6-inch).

*Spoons:* Set of measuring spoons; 1 long-handled spoon; 1

● This kitchen arrangement shows the convenience of having the sink and working surface close to the range. The shelves at either side of the window are an attractive feature



wooden spoon; 2 teaspoons; 2 tablespoons.

Small bread board (bread board and knife near bread box); large working board or bread board; chopping bowl and knife; rolling pin; flour canister (not necessary with kitchen cabinet); sugar canister (not necessary with kitchen cabinet).

Bread box (not necessary with kitchen cabinet); cake box; spice box; spice rack; roll of wax paper.

*Near Range:* Salt and pepper shakers; potato masher; pancake turner; 3 frying pans; 1 double boiler; 3 or 4 saucepans of various sizes; 1 flour shaker; 1 ladle; 1 spoon; 1 coffee canister with tablespoon inside; 1 tea canister with teaspoon inside; 1 teapot; 1 coffee pot; 1 kettle; 1 dutch oven; 1 waterless cooking pot.

*For Refrigerator:* 1 butter container; 6 refrigerator dishes; pan for crisping vegetables and lettuce; 1 or 2 pottery pitchers.

*At or Near Sink:* 1 soap dish, 1 soap shaker; 1 or 2 dish pans; 1 dish drainer; 1 colander; 1 funnel; 1 vegetable brush; 1 sink brush; 1 long-handled brush; 1 garbage can; 1 towel rack; scouring powder; copper mesh scouring pad; powder for cleaning drain; 1 dish mop; 1 plate scraper; 1 rubber mat for drainboard.

*For Kitchen Reference and*

*Bookkeeping:* Cook books; pad and pencil; account books.

*Storage Cabinet:* 1 food chopper; 1 or 2 baking sheets; 3 cake pans (square, oblong, and a set of layer-cake tins); wire cake rack;



● This handy towel rack with its absorbent paper always convenient saves many steps for the busy homemaker

set of muffin pans; 2 pie plates; 1 roaster; 1 griddle; 1 casserole; 6 or 12 individual casseroles; jelly molds; deep-fat frying kettle and basket; 1 or more bread pans; picnic equipment.

*Desirable Equipment:* Household scales; ice-cream freezer; waffle iron; timbale iron; tube cake pan; potato ricer; steam pressure cooker; fireless cooker; electric mixer and beater; large coffee boiler; ring molds.

*Miscellaneous Equipment:* Clock, electric; towels for dishes; asbestos mats; jelly bag made of baby flannel (part wool).



# Cooking Is a Pleasure

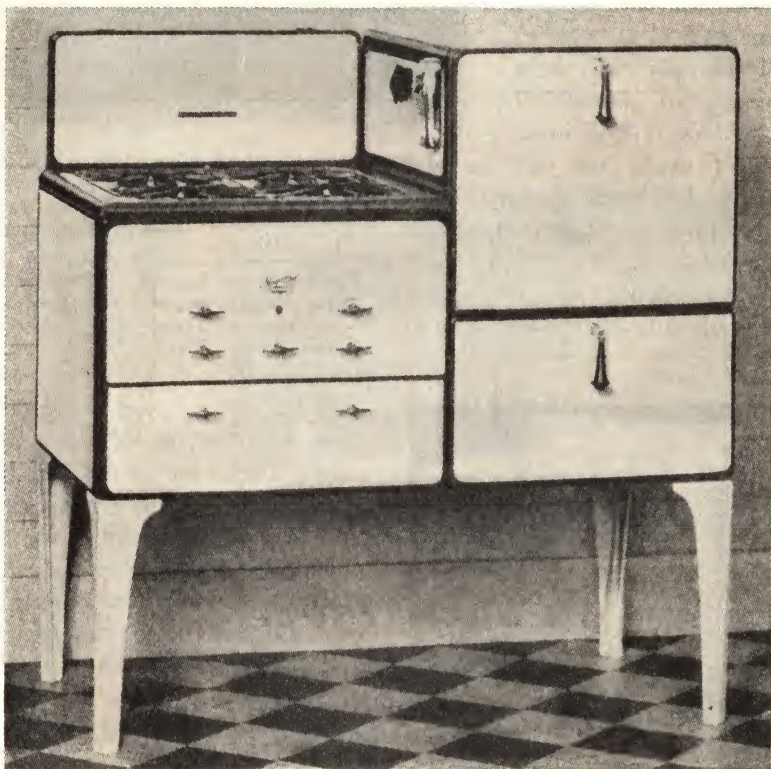
- *When You Have an Up-to-date Range and Refrigerator in Your Kitchen*

**B**EAUTIFUL to look upon, and the last word in efficiency.

That is how the new kitchen ranges are described. If you are planning to buy a new range,

you'll pass some enjoyable and profitable hours inspecting the new electric and gas models.

*Ovens.* Changes and improvements in style, in convenience and



- An efficient gas range means enjoyable hours in the kitchen



in efficiency have been many and varied. The ovens of the new electric ranges do not need vents for the escape of combustion products, tho some have a vent which may be opened when broiling.

All the better electric- and gas-range ovens are well insulated which means that little heat is wasted and the kitchen remains cooler.

Practically all have temperature controls.

*Linings.* The interiors of ovens are now largely lined with rust-resistant material. Porcelain, enamel, zinc on steel, aluminum, or one of the new stainless metals are used. One make of stove is available with a



- This gas range is efficient, attractive, and gives extra table space in your kitchen

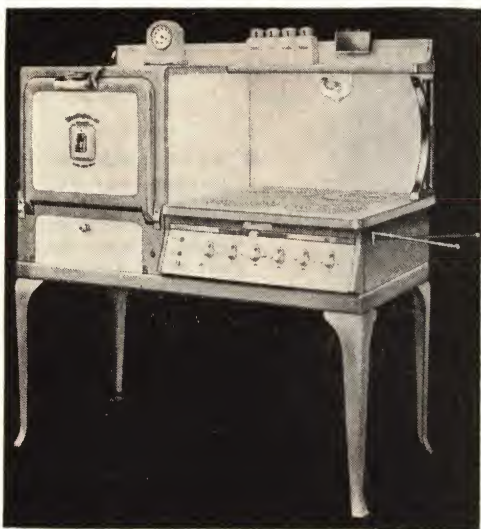
- Below: The range top is equally divided between table and cooking surface



chromium-plate oven lining. The mirrorlike surface of the metal acts as a reflector for the heat and shortens or eliminates the time necessary for preheating.

In selecting your range, consider the decoration in your kitchen and the rest of your equipment and choose a color that will harmonize.

*Broilers.* Broilers, too, have been improved. One range with the oven below has an additional broiling compartment alongside



the oven. Still another has a vertical broiler with heat on both sides.

The broiler pans have been improved so that danger of fire with the dripping grease has been eliminated. Some have a round depression in the front of the broiler pan into which the grease runs. Others have a solid grooved inset which is perforated to allow the greases to drip into the pan below.

- Everything electrical. This range is even equipped with a control clock which turns the current on and off as desired



- This electric range has a highly efficient heating element of the inclosed type, also the thrift cooker



- We show here an up-to-date oil range. It has a wickless oil burner that mixes kerosene vapor and heated air which burns with a clean flame. The oven is insulated

*Clocks.* Time-control clocks which turn the current on and off at a given time are convenient for the woman who is away from home a great deal. They are usually not included in standard equipment, but the added expense is often worthwhile.

If you dislike cleaning your stove, is it easy to clean? Keep that in mind when you are buying your new range. It's a question of personal choice whether you are going to use electricity or gas for cooking, and your decision will largely depend on local conditions.

Manufacturers are constantly improving their products, beautifying and bringing out new, convenient devices and homemaking women owe it to themselves and

their families to supply their homes with everything that will speed up their work and conserve their energy.

### Your Refrigerator

Adequate and efficient refrigeration is important to family health and the family who buys a good refrigerator buys a world of satisfaction and pleasure.

*Wide Choice.* There are a number of good refrigerators so that the choice of a refrigerator like the choice of a washing machine or a range becomes an individual matter. Select the one which fills the bill for you, keeping in mind the following points of a good refrigerator:

- (1) One that is well-built of



good quality materials, well-insulated (this is very important to economical and efficient operation), and well-finished thruout.

(2) One that will maintain a constant refrigerator temperature averaging below 50 degrees Fahrenheit, even in rooms as warm as 100 degrees.

(3) One that has ample, conveniently arranged storage space. Shelves must be

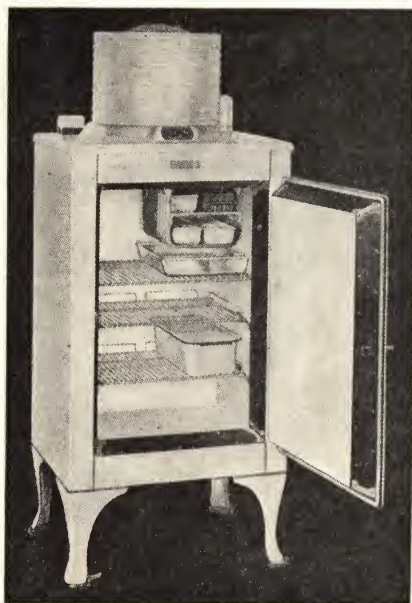
- This attractive refrigerator completes the modern kitchen. Equipped with up-to-date conveniences, it guards the family's health in preserving food



- With the advent of the modern refrigerator, the homemaker today has reason to be proud of the beauty of her kitchen. This attractive model will conveniently serve the average family's needs



far enough apart so that the space on them can be used to good advantage for tall bottles such as milk and gingerale and for storage of such bulky foods as roasts of meat, fowl, and fresh vegetables. A refrigerator that has a storage space of approximately 7 cubic feet is adequate for the average family of 3 to 5 persons.



- You can open this refrigerator door without using your hands for it is equipped with the foot pedal. It is of all-steel construction with gleaming porcelain finish

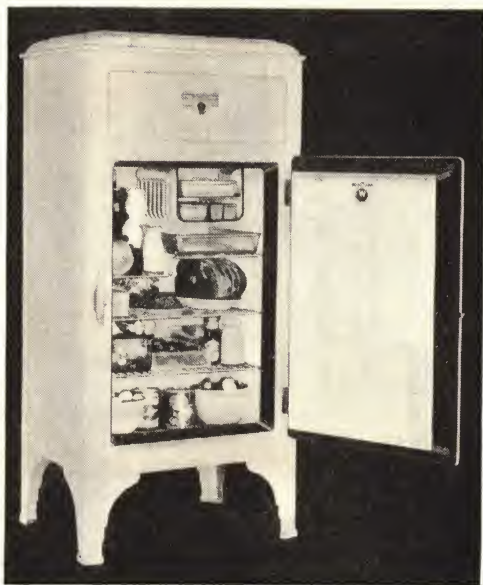
(4) One that operates at reasonable cost. A small refrigerator consumes proportionately more current than a large one, so that the larger, more adequate-size box costs very little more to operate. Also, small refrigerators frequently have less insulation in the walls than large refrigerators, causing more cur-

rent to be consumed.

(5) One that is attractive in appearance and easy to keep clean.

(6) One that freezes desserts and ice cubes in a satisfactory time. Desserts should be frozen to a mushy consistency in 30 to 45 minutes—semi-solid in 1 hour, and quite solid in  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 2 hours.

- Food arrangement is no problem in this 12-cubic foot model. The spacious interior of the modern refrigerator has solved one of the homemaker's most pressing problems—where to keep food safely, conveniently





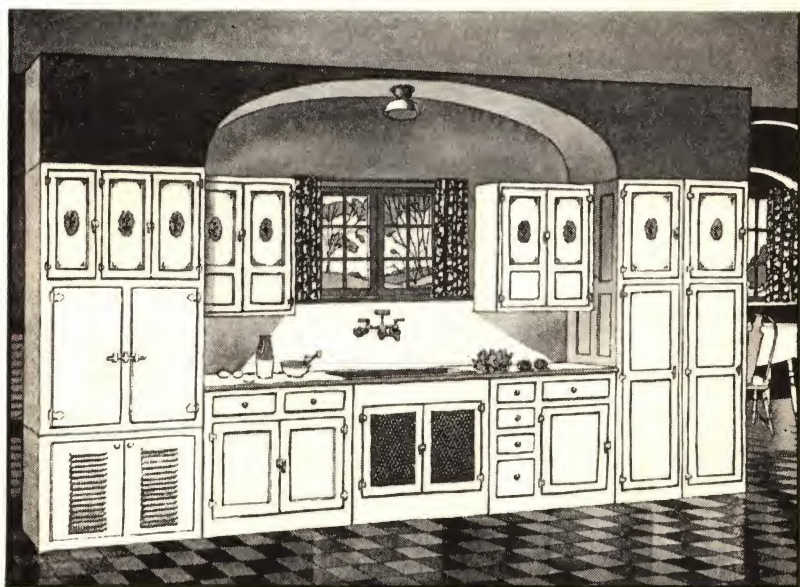
# The Working Surfaces in Your Kitchen

A FRIEND of mine has a kitchen which measures 12 x 12 feet and has 24 square feet of working surface! Any woman who has tried to entertain in, and from crowded kitchen quarters will appreciate this point.

*Wasted Space.* Detached sinks are coming to be known as

wasted space, and the same is true of drainboards. In the modern home they are sunk into the working surface and with the plumbing hidden behind doors paneled with metal cane to give the proper ventilation.

An electric dishwasher is sunk in the working surface, which is



- This installation, with enamel working surface, has complete yet compact cabinet and refrigerator accommodations



one with the sink.

*Cabinets.* She insisted on standard factory-made cabinet installation even tho the initial cost was a little more. It is U-shaped, with the sink and dishwasher under the window and at the end. The installation extended the length of the room and about halfway down each of the sides.

*Console Range.* Her range is one of the new console models

with a working space in the center and two burners at each end and is placed on the left wall with a small cabinet unit opposite.

Another excellent type of installation is one which covers two sides of a square room. Like the U-shape construction, this allows adequate working space in a room of moderate size, as for instance, 10 x 10 feet or 12 x 12 feet. The stove, refrigerator, and sink can be a part of this installation.

*Various Finishes.* Tops for working surfaces are being made

- The tile top, shown below, is also suitable for the convenient U-shape arrangement of surfaces in the kitchen





in tile, in heavy maple or ash invisibly bolted together, in heavy sheet rubber, and in the new stainless metals. Sheet steel with enamel finish, which has long been used for cabinet and table tops, is now being made in large sizes, with a splasher back to fit.

The maple, sheet rubber, and the enamel tops may be had for use with a flat-rim inset sink.

*Top and Splasher.* Another new development is an enamel top and splasher back made in

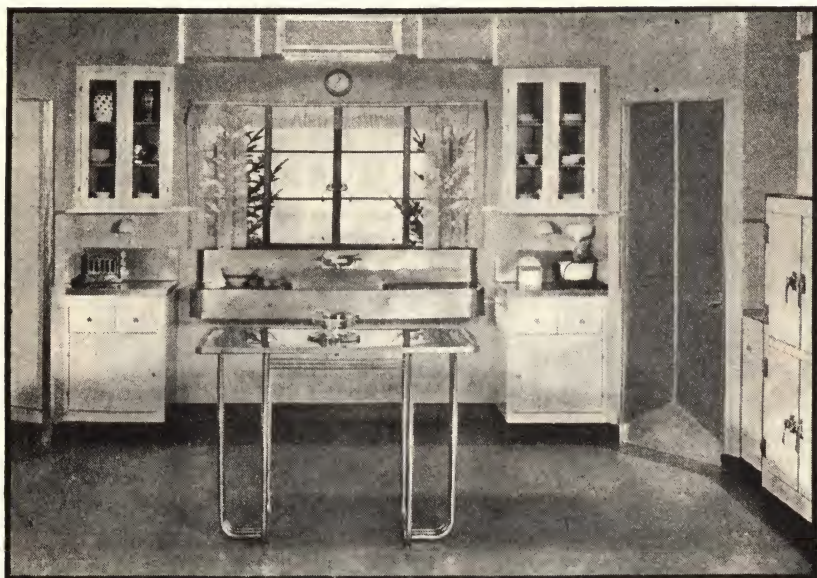
- Here is a composition top and back splash. Two doors with metal cane panels conceal the plumbing beneath

one piece, inclusive of an enameled sheet-steel sink. This can be had in colors, as well as in white, and is very attractive.

*More About Cabinets.* Here are some of the points about cabinets which manufacturers especially recommend.

The lower base shelf in the cupboard automatically pulls out





when the door is opened, while the middle shelf slides forward easily; drawers that will operate easily in any weather because of a three-point suspension feature with a special guide which keeps them in alignment; an extending upper-drawer section in cabinets which moves forward with the worktable and makes small utensils easily available while working; and the ant-proof casters which are cupped to allow use of borax or insecticide.

There is also a flour bin which can be lowered for filling and easily removed for cleaning; an enamel tray in the bottom of broomcloset units to protect the

- Beauty, efficiency, and convenience are combined in this modern kitchen. The sink is rustless, the walls washable, and the table can be placed where needed when you are working

lower shelf and facilitate cleaning; a unit with two vegetable drawers of heavy wire with metal bottoms; a pan and cover rack in the base cupboard door; an enamel-lined bread drawer; and stainless and rust-resisting table and cabinet tops.

*Color.* Kitchen cabinet finishes are conservative in color. It is well to remember that the stained finishes do not show soil easily.



# Your Home Laundering

*A Modern Machine, An Efficient Ironer,  
and a Pleasant Room Lighten Work*

**E**FFICIENT home laundering is dependent upon good equipment and a room set aside for laundering with stationary tubs, sorting tables or benches, hot water, of course, drying facilities, if possible, for use in cold and inclement weather; and adequate ironing equipment.

*Machines.* Of first importance is a good washer. Here are some points to keep in mind in the selection of an electric washer: (1) one that is sturdily and durably made; (2) that has a capacity adequate for the size of the family; (3) that will fit into the laundry, kitchen, or storage room; (4) that has conveniently located switches which can be reached while the operator stands at the wringer; (5) that has a wringer release which is efficient, safe, and convenient; (8) that has either a power wringer or centrifugal dryer, according to your needs; (9) that is of proper height, or that has adjustable legs; (10) that has convenient outlets for water, or an electric pump.

*Vacuum Washer.* (1) The

vacuum type is an adaptation of the vacuum cup on a stick which was operated by hand in a wash-tub in days of old. Several vacuum cups work downward from the top of the machine. The downward stroke forces the water down thru the clothes and the upward stroke draws it up thru the clothes. Either the tub or the central rod bearing the vacuum cups revolves.

*Dryers.* Some of these machines are equipped with a centrifugal dryer in which one load may be rinsed and dried while another is being washed. It saves drying time because the clothes come out of the dryer containing much less water than otherwise.

It does not crease wrinkles into clothes and therefore makes ironing easier. It is especially convenient in washing blankets, sweaters, pillows, quilts, and other household equipment which do not go thru a wringer.

*Agitator Type.* (2) The agitator (sometimes called activator or gyrator) type is an adaptation of the old dolly type. The modern agitator is attached to a central

post and consists of smooth metal wings. These rotate to whirl the water and clothes back and forth. Some are furnished with power wringers and some with centrifugal dryers. One machine of this type has a floating agitator.

*Cylinder Type.* (3) The cylinder type has an inner perforated cup or cylinder which revolves in the water, carrying the clothes with it. Some of these have a separate centrifugal dryer and some dry the clothes by lifting and whirling the inner cylinder.

*Water Heating.* Plenty of hot water is the important aid to better washing. The new instantaneous or automatic storage system

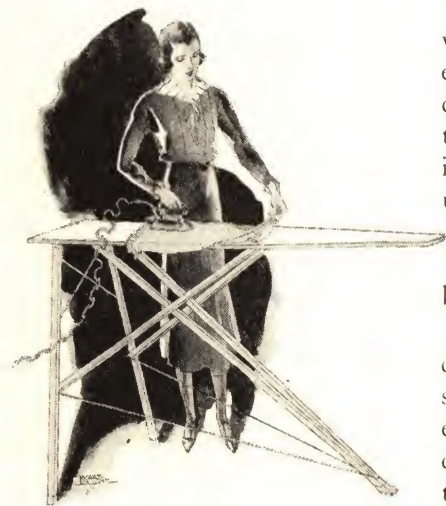
of water heating is suited to the household in which demands for hot water are intermittent and especially heavy at certain periods of the day or week.

Then there are the storage-tank heaters which are of two kinds—those with the gas burner or electric element an integral part of the tank construction, and the “side-arm” construction in which water passes thru heated coils to the upper part of the tank. Both can be automatically controlled to keep the water at any desired temperature.

*Water Softening.* Soft water for all household purposes is a great convenience, but especially so for laundering.

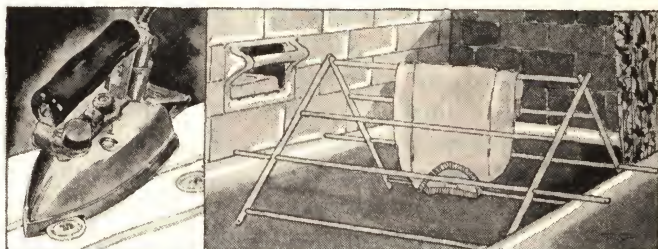
If you do not have a proper water-softening system, the generous use of the correct soap is a decided aid. Sal soda is satisfactory for white clothes and borax is efficient, yet gentle enough for use with colored clothes, silks, and woolens as well. Trisodium phosphate can be purchased in bulk and is an efficient softener.

*Amount of Softener.* For laundering, enough water softener should be added to maintain a layer of soapy suds at least 2 inches deep on top of the water all the time. Your state college of agriculture, your state university, the local water commissioners, and the



● A moisture- and warp-proof ironing board makes your laundry work easier

- A heat-controlled iron and a spacious rack should be in every laundry



chemistry department of your high school are often glad to analyze water for you and advise the amount of softener to use.

Softener is just as necessary in your rinsing water as in your suds. It is also interesting to know that soaps are available in which pure soap and water softener are "built" into a soap, which will perform both softening and sudsing purposes.

*Ironing.* If all laundry work is done at home, then certainly the ironing machine, with its ability to cover a large amount of surface in a small amount of time, is the answer to easier ironing. If the home laundry work is smaller, we have automatic heat-controlled hand irons which take the guesswork out of ironing by supplying heat always of the right temperature.

*Dampening.* Whether you use a hand iron or machine, proper dampening of the clothes is very important. For the best results in ironing, clothes should be thoroly

and evenly damp, but not wet. A new device is a gourd-shape bottle with a sprinkler cap on one side; a similar device is a screw-cap made to fit any mason-type jar.

*Materials.* For sprinkling, use water that is warm or tepid, because it penetrates better than cold water. When the weather is cool clothes can of course be sprinkled the evening before. In hot, sultry weather this is dangerous practice because of mildew; better to sprinkle a few hours before ironing. After sprinkling roll tightly so that the moisture penetrates, and place in a clothes basket and cover to prevent drying out.

Linens need to be more thoroly dampened than cottons and starched garments need a thoro dampening to insure nice finish and body that starch puts into cloth. Natural pongee is ironed dry, and materials with a crepe-like surface should be ironed dry or nearly dry to avoid removal of



the crepe texture in the material.

*Clothes' Rack.* Less storage room is required and more space for clothes is furnished by the type of clothes rack which consists of a revolving center post with folding arms at different levels and spreading in all directions. One accommodating model is 52 inches high with 24 arms, each 18 inches long; another is 65 inches high with 3 clusters of arms.

*Ironing boards.* Ironing boards may be built in, but whether you have this convenience or no, let me urge that you purchase a portable ironing board. There are times when it is convenient to iron or press in another part of the house.

One especially good ironing board has a finish which makes it moisture- and warp-proof, and "rubber boots" prevent slipping on the floor. Another type of board is adjustable to any height from 28 inches to 34 inches from the floor.

*Heat Control.* The new thermostatic heat-controlled irons are a joy to use. If you require a low temperature for silks, particularly the new synthetic silks, some of which will not tolerate high temperatures, you may have it. Or this same iron is capable of producing the high temperatures necessary for doing a good job on

linens or heavy cottons.

It is interesting to note that iron weights have been lightened and their wattage increased. Whereas the average weight of irons was 6 pounds and the wattage 660, many of the newer irons weigh 3 and 4, or  $4\frac{1}{2}$  pounds and the wattage runs from 800 to 1000.

The weight decrease is compensated for by the quicker pick-up in initial heating, in change from a low to a high temperature, and in the steady maintenance of heat.

*Ironing Machine.* And when you have one of the new ironing machines, ironing seems almost to cease to be work. With a little practice, practically all garments, as well as flat work, can be ironed satisfactorily on an ironing machine. With both the rotary and the new flat-plate or press types, the collars, sleeves, cuffs, and special parts are ironed first.

The new flat-plate press type of ironing machine not only does an excellent ironing job but can be used for pressing as well. It consists of a padded ironing board with a heated ironing surface which a pull of a lever lowers over the surface to be ironed. Thermostatic control makes possible correct ironing temperatures for various types of materials.

# Lighting Your Home

THE new trend in lighting is toward a harmonious combination of beauty and utility, bringing these most desirable qualities into a pleasing scheme of lighting.

Fortunately for all of us, it is possible to attain this effect in an old home as well as in a new one. On this and the following pages are diagrams showing how one home has been ideally lighted.

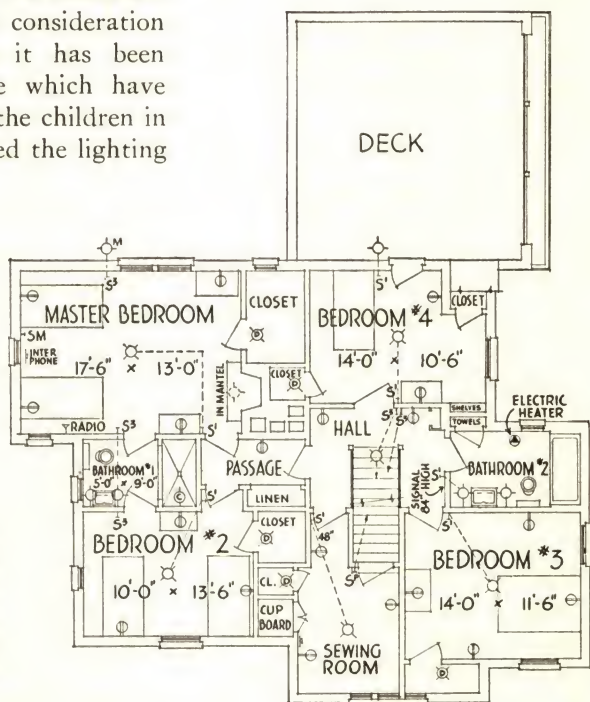
*For Children.* Few homes are wired with special consideration for children, but it has been proved that those which have been lighted with the children in mind have answered the lighting problem for the adults.

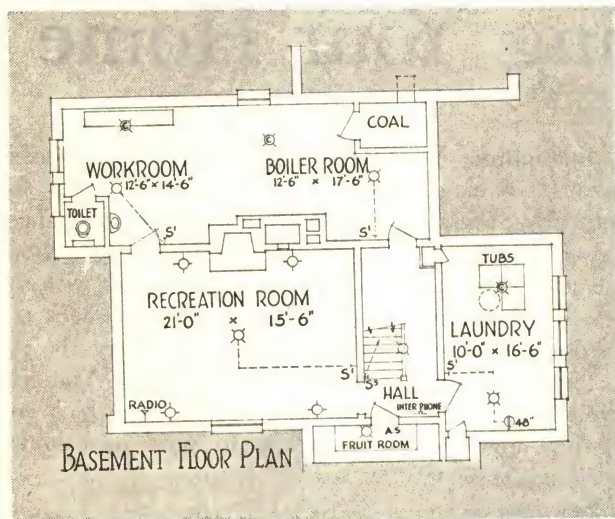
Good lighting is of vital importance to the health and well-being of children, so in

the diagrams shown here there is placed a convenient outlet for attaching electrical appliances without interfering with the light.

If you are not content with the lighting in your home, check the following list and study the accompanying diagrams. You will find many ideas there which you can adapt to your own home,

- Electrical conveniences are at one's fingertips wherever wanted upstairs. See page 116 for the key to the symbols used in this second floor diagram here





● Convenient outlets, switches, and lights are generously and thoughtfully placed. See below for key to the symbols

adding to its safety, convenience, and attractiveness.

#### *Convenience Outlets—*

In every wall space big enough for a piece of furniture.

In all exterior and bathroom brackets.

At switch height for kitchen appliances and for connecting vacuum cleaner and floor waxer.

In wall rather than in baseboard and mounted vertically (cheaper to install).
















Clock outlet in library wall.

On each mantelshelf.

Range outlet in kitchen.

With pendant switch over workbench and laundry trays.

#### SYMBOLS

-  CEILING OUTLET
-  DROP-CORD OUTLET
-  WALL BRACKET
-  FLOOR OUTLET
-  DUPLEX CONVENIENCE OUTLET
-  S<sup>1</sup> SINGLE POLE SWITCH
-  S<sup>3</sup> THREE-WAY SWITCH
-  S<sup>4</sup> FOUR-WAY SWITCH
-  S<sup>∞</sup> SWITCH PLATE WITH CONVENIENCE OUTLET
-  S<sup>P</sup> SWITCH WITH PILOT LIGHT
-   M OUTLET CONNECTED TO MASTER SWITCH
-  RADIO OUTLET
-  BUZZER
-  RANGE (HEAVY-DUTY) OUTLET





# How to Care For Your House Plants

OUR modern homes heated with gas and hot air are not ideal for plants, but this should not discourage us; we must merely choose plants which will tolerate the conditions, or improve the conditions as much as we can.

If you have reason to believe that gas is escaping and injuring your plants, stop the leak. It is equally unhealthful for you. Plants show signs of gas injury before we do.

*Increase Moisture.* Increasing the moisture in the air is not impossible. It may be done by placing the pots in a shallow, galvanized iron tray, made water-tight, which fits the top of a table or window ledge.

Pebbles and sand placed in the tray will collect and hold the water which goes thru the pots; this water will supply moisture to the air.

*Watering Plants.* Plants should not be allowed to wilt before they are watered, nor should they always be watered each day.

1. Water them when they need it. Rapid-growing and flowering plants require more water than

plants not in active growth. Pick up the pot and rap it with the knuckles; if the sound is dull, the plant has sufficient water; but if the pot rings, the plant is dry.

2. Water plants thoroly or not at all. At frequent intervals most house plants should be set in a tub and allowed to soak up all the water they will take.

*Washing Leaves.* When the sun is shining, plants stand more water than during dull weather. Too much water in dull weather causes the buds of flowering plants to drop and the leaves to turn yellow.

Because of the dust and dry air, sprinkling and washing the leaves is an important factor in keeping the plants in good health. Water may be best applied by the use of some sort of atomizer. Rubber plants, palms, and such plants should be washed with soap and warm water from time to time.

*Air and Roots.* Plants need air at their roots as much as they need it at their tops. Porous pots are used principally for this reason.

If you use a jardiniere, choose



- Here is an attractive window which shows what can be accomplished if your house plants are properly cared for

one too large for the pot and set the pot upon an inverted saucer, so that it is raised from the bottom. Furthermore, keep the excess water emptied from the jardiniere.

*Sunlight and Plants.* Most flowering plants prefer sunlight. Some foliage plants thrive in the shade. It is generally disappointing to attempt to have Begonias, Sultanas, and Cinerarias blooming if they do not get some sunlight.

*Preparing Soil.* Make a mixture of reasonably good soil to which is added a small quantity of well-decayed manure. If the soil is heavy, add some sand or

leaf mould to make it lighter.

Large-leaved and heavy-rooting plants prefer heavy soils. Juicy-leaved plants, such as Cacti, for instance, are more at home in the soils of a sandier texture. Begonias enjoy a mixture of soil, sand, and a liberal use of leaf mould.

*Appetizers.* The plants should have no fertilizer unless they are growing; never when resting. A sprinkling of bone meal over the soil in the pots during the growing season will be beneficial for



most plants.

Palms and ferns may be kept in the same size pots for several years if some of the soil is removed and replaced with new soil enriched with bone meal.

*Fertilizers.* Nitrate of soda is dangerous fertilizer to advise, but if used with caution it will be useful to encourage leaf growth and increase the size of flowers. Use a tablespoon of nitrate of soda and dissolve it in three gallons of water. Do not spray the plants with the solution, as it will burn the leaves. It is especially recommended for ferns, for *Amaryllis* in bud, and on rare occasions for other house plants when they are growing and healthy, but never when sickly nor resting.

Pulverized sheep manure is a good fertilizer, being dry and easily handled, but powerful. Merely sprinkle a tablespoon over the top of the pot.

*Size of Pots.* Most persons use pots that are too large. Conditions become bad when too large a pot is used; the soil becomes sour, the pot holds too much water, and the roots do not get the required amount of air. As the plants grow they may be given larger pots, but these shifts from one size to another should be gradual.

*Potting Plants.* In potting

plants note that the pots are made porous; keep them so by scrubbing and washing them before using. The hole in the bottom allows water to pass freely from pot. Place three or four pieces of broken pots over it in such a way that the hole is kept open and will not be closed by the soil.

If it is suspected that the soil in a pot is too wet, too dry, or infested with insects, take the plants from the pots and look at the roots. If the pot is jarred against a table the ball of soil and roots will free itself from the pot and rest in the palm of the hand.

*Transplanting.* If the plants have been planted in the garden for the summer, care must be given them when potting. To offset any root injury, the tops of the plants should be cut back accordingly. Place the plants in the shade of some shrubbery to recover from the shock before bringing into the house.

*Cuttings or Slips.* Every home gardener takes slips or cuttings from his plants. Properly made slips root more surely than those made haphazard. The points to consider are:

1. Make all slips from healthy plants. Don't carry on diseased or insect-infested plants. Get a new plant from the florist.

2. Make cuttings from three to

four inches long. Cuttings that are too large do not root so easily.

3. Remove most of the leaves; if they are large cut off a portion from the leaves left on the cutting.

4. Remove all flowers and buds which exhaust the slip before it roots.

5. Cut thru an eye or node, for the base of the slip.

6. Place them to root in sand, which is preferable to soil because it is porous and lessens the possibility of decay before the slips root.

7. Cover the slips with newspaper to shade them. In the case of plants which are difficult to root by the ordinary methods, place a fruit jar over them.

8. When roots are a half inch long, place them in pots. Use a good soil but no manure at first.

9. Do not fear cutting your plants back to make slips; they are better for the treatment.

When the rubber plants become tall and rangy, they may be pot-layered by a simple process. Cut a small, soft and poorly burned pot in two with a saw. Make an incision upward and three-quarters thru the plant stem, several inches below the leaves. Fit the pot about the stem, covering the incision, with sandy soil or sphagnum moss, and keep it well wat-

ered. When it is well rooted, the plant can be cut off and potted in the usual way.

*Plant Diseases.* Seldom are house plants troubled by insects or diseases of the roots. There are a few insects which are very troublesome, and almost no diseases. Nicotine extract is one of the most useful repellents to keep on hand. This may be bought at seed stores.

*Grayish Leaves.* Have your plants a grayish or a whitish cast, and is there a web over the tips of the branches? If so, there are red spiders upon the plants, but they are very minute and unless very bad are hardly seen. Syringe them with water. They cannot tolerate moisture in the air. They thrive in our hot, dry rooms.

*Mealy Bugs.* Have you a Coleus? Are there white, mealy insects upon it? This is the mealy bug. Wash the bugs off with a hose or, if this is impractical, use a small brush and good strong soapsuds. Some say that if each mass is touched with a brush dipped in alcohol the trouble will be controlled.

*White Flies.* If your plants become infested with a small fly, it will be difficult to control this trouble unless the plants are sprayed with nicotine when the insects are young.

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